The New-York Times.

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CONDITION OF THE SOUTH.

Proceedings of the Texas Constitutional Convention.

Slavery in that State Declared at an End.

Exciting Debate Upon the Rights of the Negro.

Full Provision Made for the Protection of the Freedmen.

The Georgia Legislature Defining the Rights of Freedmen.

Prospects of the Cotton Crop for the Coming Season.

Legislative and Other Matters in North Carolina.

Special Correspondence of the New-York Times.

AUSTIN, Texas, Monday, Feb. 26, 1866.

The great argument on giving the negro a right to testify in the Courts has at last been decided. The following is the report of the Committee on General Provisions of the Constitution, on striking out the eighth article of the Constitution, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

ARTICLE VIII.—FREEDMEN.

SEC. 1. African Slavery, as it heretofore existed, having been terminated within this State by the Government of the United States, by force of arms, and its reestablishment being prohibited by the amendment to the Constitution of the United States: It is declared that neither Slavery nor involuntary servitude except for punishment of crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist in this State; and freedmen and their descendants shall be protected in their rights of person and property by appropriate legislation; they shall have the right to contract and be contracted with; to sue and be sued; to acquire, hold and transmit property, and be subject to no penal laws based upon inequality or distinction of race.

SEC. 2. Freedmen and their descendants shall not be prohibited, on account of their color or race, the right to testify as witnesses in any case, civil or criminal, involving right of, or injury to, any of them, in person or property; the credibility of their testimony to de determined by the Court or Jury hearing the same. *Provided*, That in all cases, in which they may be heard as witnesses against a white person, it shall be in open Court, and the latter shall have the right to testify in his own behalf, and they shall have the same right, when testified against by a white person. The Legislature shall have power to authorize them to testify as witnesses, in all cases under the regulations here set forth.

This report came up in the regular order on Wednesday, the 21st inst., when the Convention went into a Committee of the Whole.

Mr. RUNNELS (Secessionist) said that he never would recognize the negro as his equal, and he moved to strike out of the first section all but that which declared that Slavery had been terminated by force of arms, and that freedmen should be protected by appropriate legislation. He also moved to strike out everything in the second section. Mr. RUNNELS, from the fact, may be, that he is an unpardoned rebel, made but few remarks upon the subject, but these few remarks were villainous in the extreme. He hinted strongly that whether it jeopardized the return of the State or not, there were many things which he could not and would not do.

Mr. BURKE (Secessionist) said that he was in favor of adding to the word terminated, (ninth word,) "on the 26th of June, 1865." He stated as his reasons for so doing, that in the event that an attempt should be made by the slaves or their friends to collect back pay, they could only collect from the above date, the day of the surrender of KIRBY SMITH'S army. He said that, as an additional reason, he was in favor of the amendment, as he had heard, during a trip in the North, that the friends of the slaves in that section would attempt to collect back pay from the time of Mr. LINCOLN'S first proclamation of emancipation. He got *one* vote on this absurd amendment, which was one less than RUNNELS got on his proposition.

Mr. PARSONS, (Secessionist,) who, by the way, is trimming for a seat in the Legislature, moved to leave the whole subject to a Legislature. He argued that, as slavery had ceased to exist, there was no necessity for saying so. Of course his motion was voted down. He afterward moved to substitute the word "does" for "shall" in the first section, so that it should read *does* exist, instead of *shall* exist. Not agreed to.

Mr. RECORD (Secessionist) moved to substitute the word "African" for "freedman," as technically the latter might be so construed as to be applicable only to those who have lately been held in servitude. Agreed to.

Mr. SLAUGHTER (Conservative) made quite a lengthy speech, in which he favored cutting off all the latter part of the second section after (and including) the word *provided*. In the course of his remarks he said that Slavery had gone by the board, and that he had attended the Convention to make no ado over the matter, but to acknowledge the fact, and further, to acquiesce in it, and to make such provision for those persons formerly known as slaves as should insure them in the complete protection of all their personal rights. As to the negro giving testimony, he was not afraid of it; and he should urge it upon the Convention as their duty to grant the negro the right to testify in all cases where he or any of his race were interested. He did not fear it. And he was astonished that any gentleman should be so touchy upon this subject, especially when the whole weight of both the black and the white man's testimony is wholly left with the Jury.

Mr. ROBERTS (Original Secessionist) favored the amendment of Mr. SLAUGHTER, and made some lengthy remarks, which were listened to with silence and respect. Mr. ROBERTS, although a bad talker, is a profound thinker and a good writer. Besides, he was formerly Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State, and was President of the Secession Convention of 1861. His words, therefore, and his position on this subject had great weight. He moved to strike out all clauses and sentences which in any way restricted the negro in the full possession of all his rights. He said that he could not believe that the South would turn and trample down the poor slaves, who had been their servants for years. The act of emancipation was not their own, and they must not be blamed or ill-treated for it. No other race in the world was ever so faithful in servitude, he said, and he would refer especially to their conduct during the late war.

Mr. FRAZIER (Secessionist) said that he was in favor of leaving the whole matter to the next legislature; and, further, he was in favor of stating, in the most unmistakable terms, that slavery had not perished by any attempt of his own, but through the force of arms and the demands of the United States Government. His remarks, as usual, were exceedingly offensive.

Mr. SAUNDERS (straight-out Union) said that he guessed the United States Government didn't care what was said of it so long as people came up to its requirements strictly. In fact, while we are attempting to be offensive, he said, we are actually confessing the power and authority of the United States Government.

After Mr. SAUNDERS' remarks, the convention adjourned until Friday morning. On Friday, the 23d inst., the convention again met, and the discussion was resumed.

Mr. FRAZIER (Secessionist) opened the ball by saying that he was in favor of admitting the negro into Court as a competent witness. This was maliciously said, as will be seen by the following: "But I am opposed," said Mr. FRAZIER, "to the whole bill as reported by the Committee. I am vehemently opposed to that portion of the bill which declares who is and who is not competent, because it is against all manner of proceedings known to common law." He said that he had been a Judge for many years, and that he had brought a great many criminals to justice through the instrumentality of a nigger. So he had by the bark of a dog and the flight of a bird. Inanimate nature, he said, often becomes potent in the revelation of crime. We should not fear information or testimony, in any form or shape, but we should not incorporate in our fundamental law any provision for such information or testimony.

Mr. TAYLOR (straight-out Union) said that he would make a few remarks. I will state here that TAYLOR, who was born in South Carolina, is one of the most radical Union men in the Convention. He said that he had not come to this Convention to mince matters. He knew that many were unprepared to accept the testimony of those who had been their former slaves—they had been also unprepared for the emancipation of those same slaves; and he was bold enough to say that their emancipation had not been brought about by force of arms by the United States, but by a force of arms *against* the United States, which, thank God, had not been *quite* successful. War upon the United States had destroyed Slavery. Our former slaves are free, and we must make laws which shall protect them in the full enjoyment of that freedom. He believed that the African should stand before the law just the same as a white man. He insisted that all evidence should be admissible. If the State of Texas does not give the negro full protection to life and property, including a right to testify in all courts and in all cases, it would be the duty of the United States Government to give him these rights and to protect him in his full enjoyment of them. Is the Southern heart so callous as to refuse these poor creatures, who have been turned out of house and home, their rights? He said that many of the delegates were afraid of their constituents in this matter. He believed that the negro should be allowed to testify in all cases, and so he should vote, and his constituents might think and act as they deemed proper in the matter. He came here to do his duty, and not to play the demagogue with his constituents. He begged the Convention not to evade the question, but to come out like men and have the manliness to let the negro testify in all cases.

Mr. REEVES (Secessionist) made a few remarks, and said that he could not go quite so far as Mr. TAYLOR. He would vote in favor of giving the negroes all their rights, including the right to testify in the courts in all cases where he, or any of his race, may be at all interested. In all other cases negroes should not be entitled to give testimony.

Mr. JOHNSON (straight-out Union) made a speech of two hours and a-half. I took down the leading ideas, and a portion of his language. He was interrogated by FRAZIER and other secessionists of more prominence, occasionally, all of whom he answered, (amidst great applause from the members) and some of whom he cut up into mince-meat. I will state here that Mr. JOHNSON is a Baptist minister, and never held but two positions in his life, as the gift of an election. The first position was a delegate to the Convention of 1861, in which he voted against the Ordinance of Secession, first, last, and all the time. He was again elected as a delegate to this Convention, and his speech will show that he is as true now as he was five years ago. He was born in Tennessee.

Mr. JOHNSON said that this question of negro testimony must be met fairly, and not as demagogues are generally inclined to meet and deal with great issues. We are compelled, the speaker said, not only by the requirements of the Government, but by the dictates of reason and humanity, to meet this question like men and patriots. For one, he would scorn to dodge the question, or to leave it to the manipulations of legislators and political demogogues.

Mr. JOHNSON said that there were three parties in the Convention. There was one party who were the most anxious to get back into the Union, but who were disposed to do the least possible thing to get back. There was another party who, by the way, had no hand in bringing about the circumstances of the past five years, who were willing and desirous to do anything which they believed the policy of the President required. There was still another party, not lacking anything in patriotism, he would admit, who were in favor of negro suffrage. He could not concur with the sentiments of the latter party, although he did not hesitate to say that, with certain educational qualifications, he believed that such a state of things would yet exist. The first party, for the most part, was composed of demagogues and speculators—men who had contributed to the advancement of the war by their words and actions where danger was not, but who had declined all contributions to its success by their presence in the field. He had less respect for that than the third party. In fact he entertained a high regard for the gentlemen composing the third party, but he believed their doctrine no more or less, if carried out, than placing edged tools in children's hands, or of throwing pearls before swine.

The second party he was in favor of, and of which he considered himself a member. This terrible war, which he had sought to avert, had stripped him of everything—and had divested him of all political opinions at the same time. He had, through the urgent requests of his county, attended this convention as a delegate, and he came here as no politician. He had with indescribable pleasure, witnessed the manly efforts and commendable zeal of patriots in this hall, and he would second their earnest endeavors. He said that it was not the requirements particularly of the President, which he was so earnestly endeavoring to acquiesce in; further than that, he wanted not only to come up to the demands of the President, but to follow in what course he might indicate. He had indicated that the Southern people should declare the ordinance of secession null and void; that they should declare that Slavery did not and should never again exist; that they should make laws for the protection of the freedmen in all their rights of person and property, including the right to testify in the Courts, and that they should repudiate the Confederate debt.

Mr. JOHNSON said that it was our duty to make provisions for the protection of and for the elevation of the negro. Before the war, he said, an intelligent slave brought more money than an ignorant one. No one questioned the physical organization of the negro. But mentally he is incapacitated to a great degree. Before the war the slave had a master to take care of him. Now he has none, and it is not his fault that he has none. But as he has always lived with us, and enjoyed our protection, it is our duty, now that he has been set free, and turned out upon the cold world, to give him all the protection we can, and clothe that protection in the strong arm of the law. He would elevate him and make him intelligent, and protect him in the full and undisturbed possession of all his civil rights.

The negro is going to stay with us, said Mr. JOHNSON, and that is precisely what we want. We cannot drive him away, if we would; we would not if we could. He cannot be extinguished like the Indian, or driven from our midst. He is, unlike the Indian, susceptible of civilization, and we must assist him in his elevation. If we do not protect him in his rights he will debase himself. If we do not protect him he will be the most degraded being upon the face of the earth. If we do not do what common sense and humanity dictates we shall make a nuisance of him. Now, the question is, shall we make a man and a good laborer of him, or shall we make a nuisance of him. Mr. JOHNSON at this juncture came down with all his ponderous weight upon shulkers and demagogues. He said he was going to vote to give the negro every right he possessed in the world, without any regard to his constituents. He was determined to make the negro a man and not a pest.

Mr. JOHNSON said that he, and his father before him, had been large slaveholders. He paid a fine compliment to those who had been slaves, and said that they had been placed in their unprotected situation without any effort on their part. They had been faithful servants, he said, and no man can deny it. He was to a great extent useless at present, but that was not his fault—*that was the fault of those who brought on the war.* What had the poor negro done that he should not be protected in life, liberty and property? Why, even during the war, he was faithful, and contributed as much toward the success of the Confederate arms in the corn-field as the soldier did in the battle-field. He knew that his county would not bear him out to the strict letter in all he said, but he would say it, and say it boldly, and take the responsibility. Mr. JOHNSON closed his remarks as follows:

"Let us show by our acts in this Convention that we *are* the friends of the negro. Let us show we are the friends we pretend to be. We may say we are the friends of the negro until doomsday; but who will believe it if we do not give some ocular demonstration of the fact. There are some gentlemen who say that they are opposed to negro equality—that their sons and daughters will become contaminated if we elevate the negro. I have to say that I pity such gentlemen on account of their unfortunate associations. In the elevation of the negro, I am not disposed to think that amalgamation will follow. I am not afraid of amalgamation or the downfall of the Anglo-Saxon race. I am not afraid of the negro or his testimony. I am more afraid of the demagogue, who, at the cross-roads, panders to a corrupt and vitiated taste. We are a superior race; and while we elevate the negro we go up higher ourselves. Let us, then, Mr. President, give the negro all of his rights—his rights to sue and be sued, to contract and be contracted with, to acquire, hold and transmit property, and the right to testify in the courts in all cases, whether he is interested or not."

Mr. IRELAND, (Secessionist,) wanted to know what right a negro had to testify in a case between two white men? In matters of his own he might testify, but no further. He said that certain gentlemen, in this attempt to elevate the negro, were degrading the whites. He collapsed in his gush of indignation by asking, "What right have Northern Radicals to interfere in these matters?"

Mr. PASCHALL, (straight-out Union,) one of the most sterling patriots in this State, followed in an eloquent appeal for the negro. He wanted to know why the testimony of a Chinese, or an Australian, or a South Sea Islander, was better than the testimony of an African? He thought such discrimination unjust, especially since the negro had been brought up in a Christian land, and enjoyed the influences of Christian society. He said it had been the boast and argument of the Southern people and Southern politicians that Slavery had Christianized the slave; and yet they would refuse him the right to testify, and allow the heathen to do so—and the latter knew nothing of an oath at all.

Mr. HANCOCK (Conservative) rose in an excited manner and lectured the members pretty generally for opposing the ordinance as he reported it. He said that he was in favor of going as far as any gentleman, but that he was afraid of springing too much upon his constituents at one time. He would pour oil upon the troubled waters, &c.—he would conciliate, &c.—(it is understood that Mr. H. is a cannidate for the United States Senate.) His remarks were very feeble and shuffling, although upon all other occasions he has shown himself to be of great influence and strength.

Mr. SMITH (Secessionist) rabbled and gabbled for quite an hour, to the great disgust of the Union men in particular, and the Convention in general, and attempted to prove that the negro could be bribed, that he would perjure himself, and that he would swear away the life of a white man for five dollars. This narrow minded pettifogger, in a fit of blasphemy, said that God had stamped the negro as an inferior being. He did not propose to elevate the negro as some gentlemen had done. He was afraid that if he did that they would even be seen on this floor. This gentleman was born in the North, so that accounts for his hatred of the negro.

Messrs. CENTER, BURKE and GIDDINGS (Secessionists,) each made a few remarks. The former was disposed, he said to do the right thing. The two latter made the most infamous remarks I have heard in the Convention. They opposed the whole thing as legislation, and did not believe the Convention had any right to make provisions for the negro—it was a matter for the Legislature. I will add that this brace of demagogues were born in the city of Philadelphia.

Mr. TAYLOR (straight-out Union) again took the floor and administered a terrible rebuke to those who had been crying "nigger equality." These words, he said, had no terror for him. He was accustomed to such things. He had been denounced before. He had been denounced five years ago for opposing secession and predicting the consequences. Before God, he had no fears of any man in Texas. He was not afraid to stand here and demand for the negro the freest and fullest rights of citizenship, not including suffrage, and he would warn gentlemen not to dare to withhold from the negro any of his rights. Gentlemen say that the negro will swear falsely. He had been in the Courts fifteen years of his life in Texas and South Carolina, and during all that time he had never heard of a case where a black man had perjured himself. It is not, he said, simple-minded, honest, ignorant people like the negro, who swear falsely—it is your intelligent, low, cunning, white knaves. Beside, gentlemen did not seem to be aware of the fact that they yielded the whole prejudice by allowing the negro to testify against a white man in cases where any of the race are concerned, and could yield nothing more by allowing him to testify in all cases.

The same strain of debate was kept up all day Saturday, the 24th inst., in which a large number of the straight-out Union men made speeches, most of whom favor giving the negro all the rights of other non-voting inhabitants. Several of the leading Secessionists favored the same thing.

Mr. WAHL (original Secessionist) said that as the slaves were free, all laws concerning Slavery had undergone a change. There could be no question but that the negro had a right to testify in all cases concerning himself or any of his race; and, as that was the case, he believed that he should be eligible to give testimony in all cases.

Mr. G. W. JONES (strong Secessionist) explained that, as the negro was free, it was our duty to make such provision in the organic law as to protect him in all his rights. That, with other rights which we must guarantee to him, and protect him in the possession of, is the right to testify in the courts in all cases where any of his race was concerned. It was our duty, he said, to do that. But he would go further, not for the real benefit of the black man, because no real benefit to him could accrue from it; but for the benefit of the white man, and give him the right to testify in all cases. "Suppose," said Mr. JONES, "a white scoundrel should murder my brother, and no person should be a witness of the crime but my negro servant; should I consent to so contrive that the villain should escape?" Mr. JONES argued the matter in this light for some time.

Mr. W. E. JONES (Radical Union) made some very fine remarks upon the subject, and severely castigated those contemptible pettifoggers, who are attempting to so arrange matters as to afford themselves the opportunity of manipulating this subject in the Legislature. He said that some gentlemen had stated that it was best to leave the whole matter of negro testimony to the Legislature—as that done was best of the Mississippi river—to follow those States in this matter. He would beg leave to state that that was the cry five years ago—and that the abolition of Slavery was the consequence of following those States. In his argument against those who had denounced the negro as a perjurer and a bad man, he said: "What will the world say when we of the South, who have for more than a hundred years boasted of the morality and Christianity of our slaves, if, now that they are free, we turn around and say that they are immoral, depraved, unchristianlike and perjurers? No man has a right, white or black, of thrusting himself in between two white men to testify. But no man should be ineligible, should the law call upon him to testify, on account of color." He did not like the action of other States, of going just so far as they deemed it compulsory for them to go. He would go the whole figure. He freedmen, and stay along, but he would suggest to those members who are anxious to have Texas resume her Federal relations, to adopt a little policy, if a sense of duty did not demand them to give the negro all of his rights. "We are suspected of being unfriendly to the freedmen," said the gentleman; "we are strongly suspected of being unfriendly to the freedmen, and we stand alone, but by confirmation of this erroneous belief by declining to give him all of his civil rights." He would warn the gentleman of a moral certainty: If they did not make provisions for the full protection of the negro in all his civil rights the United States Government would make such provision—and through the Freedmen's Bureau which was such a great bugbear with the entire South.

About 11 o'clock Saturday night a vote was taken on Mr. ROBERTS' amendment, striking out the word "provided" and all thereafter in the second section, which was carried by 68 yeas and 14 nays, after which the Convention adjourned until this morning.

The subject came up this morning at 10 o'clock, and the gladiators stripped for the arena. The straight-out Union men, and those of the Secessionists who were upon their side in this question, after four or five set speeches, and the rejection of substitutes and amendments without number, gave way, and ten or more amendments were offered by members of the contemptible eleven, (who all through this debate have manifested a desire to do nothing at all for the negro,) all of which shared the same fate. During this morning's performance,

Mr. MORROW (straight-out Union) threw a bombshell into the camp, which stirred up the Convention considerably. He declared that, although the bill as at present amended, gave the negro all of his rights, he would go further, and allow him, solely for the benefit of the white man, to testify in all cases.

Mr. MABRY (strong Secessionist) said that he was opposed to legislating at all on this matter, but if it was proper to give the negro a right to testify at all he should be made eligible to testify in all cases. "For instance," said Mr. MABRY, "if a white man breaks down a white man's fence, and a negro is the only person who saw it, the man who committed the act cannot be brought to justice. But if a white man breaks down a negro's fence, and a negro is the witness, the white man can be arrested and brought to trial. Why, the negro is better than the white man, and we are giving him more privileges by such legislation." He was in favor, then, of going the whole figure, and at least of doing as much for the white man as for the negro.

Mr. SHIELDS (straight-out Union) sprung to the floor at the conclusion of Mr. MABRY'S remarks, and said that the last speech had presented the true issue. It was not the negro's *right* to testify between two white men, but it might be the right of the latter to *summon* the negro in case there was no other witness. He said nobody claimed that the negro had a right to testify between two white men, but that the interests of society imposed upon him the obligation to do so when called upon. "I am sorry to see gentlemen," said Mr. SHIELDS, "so persistently prejudiced against their former slaves. There is now, and there always has been among the Southern people a total moral insanity upon the subject of the negro. A great change has visited us and we must incorporate him into our society—indeed the first section of the bill already does it in part—and as such, as a necessary witness to many deeds which he alone will see, not only he but ourselves will suffer if we do not allow him to testify in all cases."

Mr. SHEPPARD (Secessionist) said that for the negro's sake alone he opposed his being allowed to testify in all cases. He believed the time would come when such would be the law. He said:—"If there is any one person whom a negro hates more than another, it is a poor white man. You let one of these persons be brought up in a case in which the complainant is a former master of the witness who is to testify in the case, and the negro will swear against him just as sure as the thing is tried."

Mr. NORTON then offered as a substitute to the second section, a resolution declaring that no person, on account of color or race, should be incompetent to testify in all courts and in all cases, which was lost by its being laid on the table by yeas 54, nays 28. The bill was then manipulated at least for an hour and three-quarters, and finally passed by a vote of 56 yeas to 26 nays—the latter being for the most part in favor of giving the negro a right to testify in all cases. The following is the ordinance, which it will be remembered is the organic law of the State, and cannot be changed by future legislation except that provision is made for the Legislature to make the negro eligible to testify in all cases, if it should deem it wise and proper to do so. This subject has been before the Convention for nearly two weeks, and has been earnestly debated for five days. The ordinance, as adopted, is much the clearest and best thing that any of the seceded States have done for the negro; besides, it is constitutional law, and will not incur the risks of being manipulated by unskillful legislators and unprincipled politicians. Slavery is thus declared forever abolished in the State of Texas, and the Constitution gives the negroes all their rights. Really, as Mr. MABRY said in his speech, the way the law declares in this matter, the negro has more civil rights, and has more redress for injury than the white man. This will give Texas a better claim to a speedy resumption of all her Federal relations than some of her erring sister States. As far as I could determine by several test votes, there were only eleven men in the Convention who were opposed to giving the negro a right to testify in all cases in which he or any of his race might be interested. The following is the bill:

ARTICLE VIII—FREEDMEN.

SECTION 1. African Slavery, as it heretofore existed, having been terminated within this State by the Government of the United States, by force or arms, and its reestablishment being prohibited by the Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, it is declared that—

1. Neither Slavery nor involuntary servitude, except for punishment of crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist in this State; and freedmen and their descendants shall be protected in their rights of person and property by appropriate legislation; they shall have the right to contract and be contracted with; to sue and be sued; to acquire, hold and transmit property, and be subject to no penal laws based upon inequality or distinction of race.

SEC. 2. Africans and their descendants shall not be prohibited, on account of their color or race, the right to testify orally as witnesses in any case, civil or criminal, involving the right of, injury to or crime against any of them, in person or property; under the same rules of evidence as may be applicable to the white race, the credibility of their testimony to be determined by the Court or Jury hearing the same. The Legislature shall have the power to authorize them to testify as winesses, in all cases under the regulations here set forth, as to facts hereafter occurring.

BEN. C. TRUMAN,

TEXAS.

Proceedings of the Texas State Convention.

GALVESTON, Monday, March 12.

The Texas State Convention has adopted the substitute for the majority report declaring the secession ordinance null and void, acknowledging the supremacy of the Constitution of the United States, and renouncing the right again to secede, by a vote of 43 to 37.

The Committee on the Condition of the State reported an ordinance permitting the Legislature to pass a stay law on all judgments for debts for four years, on condition that the interest on and a quarter of the principal of such debts are paid each year.

The Judiciary Committee reported an ordinance protecting confederate civil and military officers from criminal and civil process for impressment or [injury of personal property.

GALVESTON, Tuesday, March 13.

The receipts of cotton have fallen off one quarter from what they were three years ago.

GEORGIA.

A Bill Defining the Rights of Freedmen —Feeling of the People.

From Our Own Correspondent.

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga., Tuesday, March 6, 1866.

I send herewith a copy of a bill which has just passed the Georgia Senate, and which will almost certainly become a law, declarstory of the rights of freedmen.

It is claimed for this bill that it affords the best practical proof of the determination of this State not to oppress or ill-treat the African race, but to treat them justly and with sympathetic consideration, not merely in words or promises, which may or may not be regarded, but in deed and truth, and with all the force of law.

It will be observed that it gives the "persons of color" all the rights short of the suffrage which the white man enjoys, and subjects him to no penalties to which the citizen is not already subjected.

Public opinion everywhere approves this course, and I have the utmost confidence that before this reaches its destination it will be a part of the statute law of the State.

It is far better than negro codes or separate legislation for the negroes as a class. It effects what no sensible man objects to, the fullest protection of the freedman in his altered situation, and by giving him the same rights and remedies, and inflicting upon him the same punishment as the whites, it gives him confidence in the good disposition toward him of his late masters, removes apprehensions of persecution, and encourages him to pursue a life of industry and usefulness.

This bill furnishes a very cogent proof of the practical wisdom of the President's veto of the Freedmen's Bureau Act, which, by the way, has cheered the drooping hopes of the people more than it is possible to describe. It will, of course, be urged by those who oppose the President's course in this matter, that State laws furnish no security that they will be carried out; that they are prepared in a spirit of deception, and carried for the purpose of acquiring power to commit cruelties and reëstablish Slavery. But the facts must prevail after a time; and no one who lives and moves among the Southern people, no matter what his political opinions or social prejudices, if he is honest and desires to tell the truth, can refuse to admit that there is not only no disposition to ill-treat, defraud or oppress the negro, but there is a cordial willingness to give them a fair chance and every encouragement to make their living and be useful laborers. I speak of the masses and the prevailing sentiment. There are, of course, individual exceptions, as there are in all communities. There are unjust men, who "hate the nigger," and regard him as the root of all evil, the source of all wickedness, and that which "brought death into the world and all our woe;" but they are not one in ten thousand, and they have just about as much influence as Mr. JOHN W. FORNEY has had in his recent appeal to the South to support the *Press & Chronicle*.

There is a great rejoicing over the President's veto and his speech to the National Monument Association, because they afford a proof that he is determined not to allow the Southern States to be legislated out of the Union, and made provinces, to be governed by military satraps. The fears that these acts of the President will encourage "Southern turbulence," and "remit the negro to all the horrors of another slavery," will be found to have no basis but in the angry brains of very radical men. The inclosed bill is the first legislative answer to this expression of disapproval of Mr. JOHNSON, and the tone and temper of the people, as manifested by their public journals, will show what must appear disgustingly loyal to those who want them to be rebels.

Nobody objects to the presence of a few white troops, although there is clearly no occasion for their services; but martial law, arbitrary interference with the rights of person and property, open contempt for State laws and judicial process, annulment of the sentences of State courts with reference to white persons, as was the case recently in Charleston, are unwise and needlessly oppressive, and calculated, by reminding the people unnecessarily of their subjection, to delay the work of conciliation and cordial reunion. Bayonet-bred loyalty is not a desirable or profitable production. It costs a great deal, and the fruit is "like to apples on the Dead Sea shore." Kindness, confidence, cheerful recognition of equal rights, hands-off, will produce and mature the true, earnest loyalty which honest men at the North must desire to see, and which is now growing everywhere, notwithstanding the hard frosts of insulting constitutional amendments, outer barbarian resolutions and bills for the enlargement and perpetuation of martial law.

All are preaching patience, abstention from controversies, angry retorts, or return of abuse for abuse, not because they like Mr. STEVENS' estimate of Southern men, but because they think it due to Mr. JOHNSON and their real friends at the North to abstain not only from evil, but the appearance of evil; and then the "you're another" argument was never very much in vogue in this latitude.

The Legislature will soon adjourn, and its members return to their "cotton-patches." Agriculture progresses favorably, and hitherto in the cotton region the laborers are working faithfully.

It has been demonstrated, however, just as I anticipated at Christmas, that the plan of remuneration by a share in the crop is far more successful than money wages paid weekly or monthly. In the former case the encouragement to labor, and the continued prospect of large receipts at the end of the year, are promoting diligence, fidelity, and general good conduct. In the latter, the desire "to knock off" for a frolic when the money is received; to change places and "try to do better," is manifested frequently with very bad results. On the whole, the freedmen are doing well, and if the season be favorable, the prospect of a revival of prosperity is promising when the crop is made. Until then men and women too are content to wear old clothes, "because they have no new," and bear many other privations, some of them rather hard and pressing. Money is as scarce as *huitres d'Ostende*, or *patés de Perigord*. Indeed, to adopt the language of commercial reporters, "money is exceedingly tight." QUONDAM.

A BILL to define the term "persons of color," and to declare the rights of such persons. (Passed by the Senate.)

SECTION 1. The General Assembly of the State of Georgia do enact, that all negroes, mulattoes, mestizoes and their descendants having one-eighth negro or African blood in their veins, shall be known in this State as "persons of color."

SEC. 2. Persons of color shall have the right to make and enforce contracts, to sue, and to be sued, to be parties and give evidence, to inherit, to purchase, lease, sell, hold, and convey real and personal property, and to have full and equal benefit of all laws and proceedings for the security of person and estate, and shall not be subjected to any other or different punishment, pain or penalty for the commission of any act or offence than such as are prescribed for white persons committing like acts or offences.

SEC. 3. All laws and parts of laws in relation to slaves and free persons of color militating against this act, be and the same are hereby repealed.

The Cotton Crop — Prospects for the Coming Season.

From Our Own Correspondent.

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga., Saturday, March 10, 1866.

I have endeavored to inform myself with reference to the probable cotton crop of this year, not merely in this State, but in all the cotton States. From all I can learn and see, the estimates published and apparently accepted by the Northern papers, are greatly exaggerated. Indeed many of those at the South who have attempted an estimate of the crop, will in my opinion find that they have considerably overshot the mark. The most sanguine practical men in the cotton States do not believe that the crop will exceed from 1,200,000 to 1,500,000 bales, but excited calculators in the manufacturing portion of the North and those who publish circulars, count on 3,000,000 bales.

In Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Alabama, the great bulk of the cotton crop was raised—considerably over two-thirds, almost, if not quite, three-fourths. In those States now, if the accounts I receive from there are reliable, and if the men who come thence to this State hunting up freedmen tell the truth, there is a great scarcity of field labor, a vast amount of cotton land uncultivated and waste, and the disposition of the negroes who have been hired and who are now on the plantations, far from encouraging as a steady, reliable, continuous hard work in the cotton fields. In Mississippi, Louisiana, Northern Alabama and West Tennessee, it is safe to say that fully one-third of the laborers who made the crop of 1860 are not now available for the present year; and it is equally safe to calculate that of the remaining two-thirds the labor relieved from the compulsion of the old system will be deficient both in quantity and quality, to a very serious extent. In Southern Alabama and Georgia the number of laborers lost by the war is less, relatively, than in the districts to which I have referred: but here, too, the number is less, and the efficiency of the work done, both as to time and thoroughness, is far below the old standard. In South Carolina, the Sea Islands will produce little or nothing; and the same diminution in the number of field hands exists there as elsewhere, in consequence of deaths, having left the State, service in the United States Army, and a disposition to try the sweets of town and city life, in preference to the monotony and toil of a plantation. Take all these facts together, and it will be seen that it is vain to expect a crop anything like what the nation will require for home consumption, and to make a favorable balance of trade.

I do not desire to be understood as representing the mass of the freedmen as behaving badly, idling or refusing to work. On the contrary, as a general thing they are doing better than might have been reasonably expected. Where their compensation is to be a share of the crop they are doing very well so far, in many instances displaying industry and zeal. But there is a number of cases where they are not doing so well, where they work fewer hours, are careless in the way they work, absent themselves for amusement, refuse to work altogether, quit their employers without notice, and otherwise diminish or destroy the prospect of any crop. For all such cases allowance must be made when a calculation is made of the fleecy treasure to be gathered this Autumn. They form a very large aggregate to be subtracted and one which it is folly to ignore.

People talk of the "demoralization" of the negro, meaning his indisposition as a free man to do the same amount of work he did as a slave. This is almost universally true of the hired laborer receiving monthly wages paid in money; but where the payment is prospective, and to be made in a share of the produce, the general rule is the other way. The greatest "demoralization" is to be found among those who have or have had contact with the "colored troops." These latter exercise a most baneful influence over their colored brethren, taunting them with their inferiority as laborers, persuading them that where they work they are no better off than slaves, and in many cases inducing them to believe that they are the lawful owners of the land which they are tilling, and which is fraudulently withheld by their late masters. It is of the first importance that this class of troops be removed from the Southern States, on account of its evil influence upon the labor question, not to mention the other cogent reasons for its removal as a source of irritation and social disturbance.

I have already, in former letters, alluded to the great injury which will result to the agricultural interests in Northern Georgia, from the withdrawal, by wholesale, of the labor already under contract, and by the offers of higher wages, made by those who want hands to work in Mississippi, Arkansas and West Tennessee. I know of several instances where planters who went to bed at night with all the hands they needed, under contracts approved by the agent of the Freedmen's Bureau, and, for the approval of which they paid said agent one dollar for each laborer, awake in the morning to find their plantations deserted and their hands gone to Tennessee or elsewhere, having been allured in the night by the offer of higher wages and "a ride on the cars."

All these facts induce me to believe that if the crop of 1866 is one-fourth of that of 1860 we may esteem ourselves fortunate. Deduct one-third of the laboring force; make the further deduction which calm common sense must make from the amount of labor done by the freedmen as compared with that done by the slave; allow for "demoralization" and the aggregate injury to cultivation from loss of farming implements, stock, &c., and the inability of the planters to replace them, and I think it will be found that I have not been too severe in pruning the estimates which ignorant or over-sanguine calculators have made. I have not made any allowance for the depressing influence of the political condition, nor for the apprehension of a grinding tax on cotton. But if you will look at the advertisements in the papers published in the cotton States, and read of the "Plantations for sale or rent," made by old practical farmers who say "the first loss is the best," and that it is better to save something than lose all, it would be seen that it would not be unreasonable to make a large deduction for the political situation.

QUONDAM.

Gov. Jenkins' Veto of the Stay Law.

Gov. JENKINS, of Georgia, having vetoed the Stay Law passed by the Legislature of that State, has sent to the State Senate a clear and able message, denying the constitutionality of such a law, and condemning its policy. The following points, embracing in themselves a complete argument against the law, we commend to the special attention of the Southern legislators. The Governor says:

In executory contracts, time is always an important element. It will probably be conceded that it would be unconstitutional for the General Assembly to enact that no promissory notes heretofore made, and to mature on the 1st day of January, 1867, shall be considered due and payable before the 1st day of January, 1868. If this be so, it is difficult to perceive how the constitutionality of the act can be maintained. If the day of payment may not be postponed before maturity by legislative action, it would seem a *fortiori*, that it may not be, after maturity; or, rather, that the contract may not be thrown back into immaturity, and a new day of payment appointed by such action. Pursuing the line of argument, the right of the promisee does not lose its character of contract by the institution of a suit, nor by the rendition of a judgment to enforce it. That character abides, and to it the constitutional guaranty adheres until it is either extinguished by performance or smothered by a statute of repose.

Again, the judgment and execution which are intended to be the consummation, or end of the obligation, are lawful subjects of traffic, are saleable commodities. It is indisputable that the possession, and exercise by the Legislature of the power of suspending their operation would "lessen their value," as such; and this brings such legislation within another definition of impairment, viz.: "It lessens the value."

If one Legislature may postpone for a year, each subsequent one may do the same.

Already have the judgments effected by this act, been suspended five years by such action. Upon principle, these successive postponements might as well be continued an hundred years or through all time.

The hundredth would be as valid as any preceding one. But how, meantime, fares the objection? The consolation offered to the promisee, and repeated to successive generations of his posterity, would be, that it flourished in a green old age, its strength unimpaired by time.

Georgia is the fourth State that, either through its Executive or its Supreme Court, has repudiated the Stay Laws.

Position of Hon. Joshua Hill.

ATLANTA, Ga., Saturday, March 10, 1865.

Hon. JOSHUA HILL has just published a long letter, addressed to the sixty-nine special legislative friends of Hon. A. H. STEPHENS. The letter is published in pamphlet form. He thinks there was underhand work in securing the election of Mr. STEPHENS to the Senate, and that Mr. S. was easily overpersuaded to accept the high office.

His (HILL'S) pretensions to loyalty had been doubted. He (HILL) never loved the cause of secession; never regarded the cause of the South as synonymous. He could not look upon rebellion with favor when he felt it was absolute ruin to the South, and a curse to the whole country. His recognized devotion to the Union was a fixed fact. He never sought to depreciate the efforts of Mr. STEPHENS to prevent secession, but did complain that he did not refuse to sign the ordinance of secession. Had the honest laboring masses been appealed to, he was sure the unwise step would never have been taken. The doctrine of secession, despite the miseries it has produced, he fears is this day more generally tolerated than when reduced to practice.

He denies trying to be elected Governor during the war, in permitting his name to be used. He never bowed the knee to Baal, and Secessionists and war men exult at the overthrow of JAMES JOHNSON and himself. He is powerless of influence now in Georgia, but is not without influence at Washington. The whole letter is one of indignation and threats.

SOUTHERN JOTTINGS AND JOURNEYINGS.

Adjournment of the North Carolina Legislature—Political Status of the Defunct Confederacy—The Southern Leaders' Miscomprehension of the North—Loyalty of the Rebel Rank and File—Secession Sensibilities—The Trial of the Commandant of Salisbury Prison.

RALEIGH, N. C., Friday night, March 9, 1866.

The Legislature, which has sat two weeks longer than was anticipated, will adjourn next Monday, after an active and arduous session in which it accomplished very little. Since I last wrote, the Senate passed

CURRENT LITERATURE.

THE QUEEN OF THE RUBIES.

From Once a Week.

There was once in the City of Meydoon, in Rajpootana, a King—the ruler. He governed the country justly, and by his wife, Baidee, the Ranee, an only son was born unto him, and was named Ashnied. The young Prince was very precious to his parents; but in the midst of his glory the King died, and in his last moments committed his wife and child to the care of his wuzeer—Ashirn.

"Watch over the young Prince, Ashirn," said the dying King; "perfect his education, and be to him what you have been to me."

"On my hand and eyes be it," replied the wuzeer; "but oh, my lord! where is your signet? Without that, who will believe me!"

"The Ranee has it; go to her," said the King, and expired.

Now Ashirn was a wise man and a crafty, so when he had firmly gathered the reins of power into his hands he cast aside the Ranee and the young Prince and expelled them from the palace. The Ranee took her son, and, accompanied by a faithful black slave, went to reside in an obscure quarter of the town. Now the Vizier having obtained the substance of his ambition, one would have thought that he would not have troubled himself much about a mere shadow, a symbol of power, the signet of the late King, but it was not so, for night and day he had no rest for the thought of this signet, and after greatly importuning the Ranee upon the subject he at last caused her house and person to be searched, in the hope of discovering its place of concealment: but no; search high or low no ring was forthcoming; for the Ranee, knowing well the value of the ring, had prevailed upon her husband to intrust it to her, and having made a cut in the flesh of the slave Munbodh, had placed the signet there; the flesh had now grown over it, and there was no fear of its being discovered: still, seeing the unquiet state of the Vizier's mind, and the daily searchings and troublings, she feared more and more, knowing that she was watched, and that the life of the young Prince was not safe.

One day, as the slave Munbodh was standing in the Ranee's gateway, he saw a procession of white-robed men, with scarlet turbans, approaching, marshaled by an old and gray-headed servitor of respectable appearance; each man carried a tray, and as they drew nearer, Munbodh became aware that the trays were filled with the most savory dishes.

"I see," said he, "sweetmeats, and silvered too; some rich man is doubtless dead, the second tray is—yes, kabobs, with just the delicate red shreddings of red pepper to which I am so partial; truly the cook was a worthy man, a man of taste, and a notable acquaintance. Koorma, too, as I live, and dressed with cocoanut. I must follow this assemblage, for the discussing of these good things is a matter of moment."

Thus soliloquized Munbodh, gazing wistfully at the tray-bearers; what, however, was his astonishment to see the major-domo-like individual who headed the procession stop before him with the salutation of "Salam Aleikaum. Peace be with you."

To which Munbodh wonderingly replied, "Aleikaum salam. May your bounties increase; and in what way can I serve you?"

"Oh, Jemudar," replied the gray-beard, "my master sends a respectful salutation to Her Highness the Ranee? (may Allah prosper her;) and he begs the acceptance of these trays as an offering on his daughter's marriage."

Having said thus much, at a sign from him the tray-bearers passed forward into the arched gateway before the astonished Munbodh; each tray was placed deftly on the low benches under the verandah in the little courtyard, and the white-robed train, filing noiselessly out one by one, with an "Allah protect you from the Khansamah," were all disappearing in the direction whence they had come, before Munbodh had recovered from his state of coma.

Then he muttered to himself, "God is great. Ah, I must run after this worthy Khansamah and inquire the name of this dispenser of good things. Yet stay; there was young Prince Ahmed in the courtyard just now, and it would not do to let him disturb the beauty of those trays before the Kanoum had refreshed her eyes therewith," and he cried to himself, rubbing the palms of his hands together, "Wah! wah! surely this is wonderful."

Now the trays gave forth a fragrant steam which drew Munbodh as with a chain of sweetness, cracking each joint of his fingers as he went, until he stood before the viands.

"Allah! what magnificence. Hoseinee kabobs! I always did hunger after them. 'Tis but a little dish, after all, and the Ranee is generous to her slave; it would come to me by-and-by, to a certainty—what harm?"

Thus muttering to himself, he sat down and speedily became absorbed in the discussion of the savory sticks of meat, finishing with a draught from a pitcher of pomegranate sherbet, which had accompanied the trays; then, rising up well pleased, he washed his hands, stroked his stomach, and, arranging the folds of his turban, bethought himself that a fragrant chillum of tobacco would act well as a digestive; but somehow to-day the tobacco had not its usual soothing properties.

"Arey! arey!" groaned he; "this is the servant of disobedience. Ah! ill-fated kabob, that could allure me from the path of duty. Ah! kabob of iniquity, to what abominable torments dost thou subject me; now here, now there. Infernal pain, wilt thou then seize my whole body?"

And he squatted on the ground, rolling himself backward and forward, until his agony being insupportable, he yelled and bellowed, so that the whole house was alarmed, and he was carried in to the Ranee. There in the intervals of the paroxysms of pain which racked his whole frame, he confessed his faults and recounted everything that had occurred. In half an hour he was dead. Then the Ranee saw that this had been a trap laid by the Vizier to destroy the Prince, herself, and the whole household, and she knew that they were no longer safe in the city; so she closed the house and dismissed the servants, and with her own hands laid out the body of poor Munbodh, taking care with one clean incision to cut out the signet of her late husband; this she secreted in her robe. Then, when night closed in, and all were wrapped in slumber, she took the young Prince by the hand, and alone and together they went forth through the lonely streets of the silent city. On they wandered, far, far away, and when morning dawned, they had entered into the great desert that bordered the country far away.

For two days and two nights they traveled, until the Prince was well-nigh spent with fatigue, and his mother, who was an elderly woman, and had probably never been out of the harem in her life, was almost exhausted. Weary and travel-worn, they came suddenly upon a mighty sheet of water, where, under the scanty shade of a date-palm, the Ranee lay down, and, utterly exhausted, she recited the confession of faith, gave her son his father's signet, and, commending him to the hands of the All Merciful, she expired. Prince Ahmed was quite overwhelmed by the great and unexpected train of disasters which had befallen him during the last two days, and this final blow almost overpowered him, so that he sat beside the body with his face covered with his garment all that day and night. Next morning he smoothed the features of his dead mother, and, reciting the prayer for the dead, he buried her in the sand at the foot of the palm-tree. Afterward, he went to the water's brink, and, having performed his ablutions, went through the morning prayer. As he arose, he noticed, lying in the sand by the river's brink, a wondrously large and lustrous red stone, which blazed in the morning sunlight with crimson and purple radiance. Taking it up, he saw that it was a ruby, a stone of priceless value, meet for a King's ransom. Further along the shore he lighted upon another, and again another—the whole bank was strewed with them. Then Prince Ahmed put his finger in his mouth, and he thought—

"Surely, now, it is but to fill the end of my turban with these precious stones, and I am rich for life; but then how of my mother's wish—that I should win back my father's kingdom from the Vizier Mahmond." And he took out the King's signet, and putting it on his finger, walked thoughtfully on, turning it round and round. Presently, as he paced along the water's edge, he came to a vast "banyan" tree; it was a perfect grove in itself, this tree; an army might have encamped beneath it; so Ahmed sat himself down and rested in the shade, thinking of the rubies, and how they came there. He thought to himself, surely this water is wondrous, for it extends as far as the eye can see, and yet it is not the ocean, for it is sweet water. Then, leaning back against a root of the tree, he saw above him, built on the outspreading boughs, a rough platform of sticks, on which, also, he fancied he could see something moving. This roused his curiosity; so he rose, and, climbing up, found that this platform was a monstrous nest, with three young unfledged birds in it; but such birds! They were in size, as winged elephants. When the nestlings saw Ahmed, they did not seem at all frightened, but said, in very good Hindustanee, "Toom, hara durka kia hai?" that is, "What do you want?"

Then Ahmed knew that these must be the young of the wonderful simoorg; for but to one bird on the earth has Allah granted the power of human speech. So he fed the young birds with some sweetmeats which he had with him, and even while he was doing this the smallest of the three cried,

"The nest-father is coming!"

And straightway the Prince made haste and hid himself, for he feared the coming of the monstrous bird. Presently there came a noise as of the wings of myriads of wild fowl, and the simoorg overshadowed the tree with his wings, descending to his young ones with a scream as harsh as that of the magical fire ozgriage of the Feringhees.

"What has been here?" he cried; "I saw something in the distance that seemed like the shape of one of those cursed sons of Adam."

But the young ones lifted up their voices in favor of Ahmed, so that the monster bird became appeased, and smoothed down his angry ruffled plumage, and he called to Ahmed to come forth. So the Prince came with many protestations, and humble protestation.

"What is your desire?" said the simoorg.

And Ahmed gave answer—

"If your servant may speak, he desires to cross this mighty water, and find out whence come the rubies which deck its shores."

At this the bird laughed, and said:

"Oh, young man, yonder is the country of the Jins and Afrites; assuredly, you would not escape with your life if you went there—ask something else."

But the Prince remained silent, saying to himself,

"That or nothing."

So he sat down disconsolate at the foot of the tree, and the simoorg busied himself with his young ones above. Presently there came a noise as of a rushing mighty wind, and lo! the double bird, with outspread wings, came sailing to her nest, and she turned the male out, and nestled with her young ones.

When she heard the story of the Prince, and how he had fed her callow young ones, she angrily turned upon her mate, and cried:

"How of thy pride, oh mighty one? Give him only one of your wing-feathers and you know he will be invisible. What cursed Jin can meddle with him then?"

Thus it came about that Ahmed attained to his desire. So the male simoorg said to him:

"Shut your eyes, and stuff well your nose and ears with cotton, otherwise the rushing of the air will steal away your life."

And Ahmed did as he was told.

Then the simoorg took him gently in his talons, and flew across the water so rapidly that the Prince's head began to whirl and grow giddy, until, in a short time, they reached the earth again. And the simoorg quickly (for he was anxious about his wife and children) plucked a feather, which Ahmed put in his cap, and so went his way.

Now the country in which the Prince journeyed was lovely and pleasant to the eye, and, as he went on, he saw, reclining on a turfy hillock, a beautiful dark-eyed maiden, fastened by a light chain to a stake in the ground. She was dressed in a flowing robe of white, open at the neck, round which was a bright scarlet ring. Now, as the Prince stood there in wonder he saw a large dark blue pillar of cloud coming down one of the forest glades, and concealed himself for very fear, forgetting that he was invisible. When the maiden saw the cloud she started up in terror, but there came a voice saying words that Ahmed could not understand, and straightway the maiden became fixed as a stone, with her large dark eyes wide open, staring glassily.

The cloud came on, and enveloped her in its folds, and then in a moment melted away, and standing beside the maiden, Ahmed saw a being fearful to behold: swarthy and dark, with long black wings and pointed ears; his body covered with long living hairs like twining worms, while fire flashed from his eyes. He stood by the body of the maiden, which was stretched on the ground headless, and in the Afrite's hand was the head, the eyes fixed, and staring in horror; in his other hand was a dark brown stone, glittering with yellow sparks, and he touched with it the damsel's lips, and spoke; and his language could be understood by the Prince, for it was that of his own country. Said the Afrite:

"How long shall I be King of the Jins?"

And the head answered him: "Until the parrot in the golden cage tells the secret."

At this the monster laughed, and the trees shook. Then he asked:

"How is it with Mateemat?"

And the damsel answered:

"He is in the desert, sorrowful, under the palm-tree."

At this again the demon shook with laughter; and Ahmed looked and saw that all the blood of the maiden was dropping into a brazen dish which was on the ground, and the Afrite took the dish, and he put his fingers into the blood, and lifted them up, sprinkling the drops back into the dish, and the globules fell back congealed and petrified. Then the demon called in a loud voice, ordering that the carbuncles should be taken and offered to the sacred river, whereupon a pearly-grey pillar, with violet light streaks, came floating forward, and enveloped the dish, so that the Prince saw it no more; but in his own heart he thought, "These, then, are the precious stones of the mighty water," and when he looked he saw nothing but the turf-bank, and the dark-eyed maiden seated. Then Prince Ahmed came near, and spoke to the maiden, but she paid no attention to him; he touched her shoulder, but she sat quite still, with her head bent down, moaning and rocking herself to and fro.

Then Ahmed was greatly troubled in his mind, and he began to think to himself,

"What of this parrot in the golden cage? Ah!" thought he; "if this sweet maiden would only speak."

And he was almost minded to take the feather out of his cap, but he feared lest the genii might see him; so once again he addressed her, telling who he was and how he wished to help her, but she paid no more heed to his words than to the wind. Then he bethought himself of Mateemat.

"Yes, perhaps he may know something—in the desert; what desert? I will go and find Mateemat; perhaps he can help me against this foul Afrite, and bring succor to this innocent damsel."

Then stooping down, the Prince pressed his lips to her forehead; but she moved not; and as he went away into the forest he saw her still sitting in the same position; so he went on very sorrowfully.

Now the Prince wandered aimlessly on, and toward nightfall he arrived at the border of the forest. There he found that all verdure ended, and before him, as far as the eye could see, lay a vast plain, bare and treeless.

"This, perchance," thought he, "is the desert where Mateemat is."

As it was too dark to see, however, he laid himself down under a tree to sleep.

At the first blink of dawn he rose and walked out into the plain, straining his eyes forward, and as the morning light grew stronger, he saw, far in the distance, a solitary palm. Then his heart leapt within him for joy, for surely, he thought, here I shall find Mateemat. Girding himself tightly, and having taken a long drink at a small forest spring hard by, he steadily set his face toward the palm. As he approached he saw that a pure, clear light like a star was burning at its foot, like a lamp. Going nearer he saw a beautiful young man chained to the tree; and on his forehead played a tongue of silvery flame. Round the tree swept pillars of cloud, and, as he gazed, the night fell. Quietly he walked on; he saw that Mateemat was writing strange characters in the sand; and it grew darker. It was a wonderful sight. The Prince turned the matter over in his mind, and thought,

"How shall I ask about the parrot in the golden cage?"

Then he looked again at Mateemat, pondering, and saw that the characters in the sand, which the genii had traced with his finger, were luminous, and the Prince read:

> The night is full of darkness,
> My thoughts are full of strife;
> Therefore I long for daylight,
> For the sunlight is my life.

When he had read this, Ahmed sat down to wait for the dawn. As the morning sun fell upon him he rose, and became aware that the eyes of Mateemat were fastened on him, then he feared exceedingly. And the genii spoke—

"What mortal is here?"

And Ahmed straightway fell on his face, and made obeisance, nothing doubting that his invisibility was gone, and crying his "Tobah! tobah!" he besought forgiveness, and told his story. Then Mateemat said:

"For twenty-four hours you have neglected to give thanks to the Almighty; therefore is the virtue of the simoorg's feather now waning, and I saw your shadow thrown on the sand in the beams of the morning sun; therefore, if you would not be destroyed by the Jins who watch round this place, hasten quickly and repair your omission."

So the Prince straightway performed his ablutions with sand, and having recited the Kulina, gave thanks. Having completed his devotions, he assured himself that the feather was securely fastened in its place, and then besought Mateemat to tell him how to find the parrot in the golden cage, for that his whole being longed to succor the beautiful damsel whom he had seen in the forest.

"It is a merciful task," replied Mateemat; "although who this maiden may be I know not. One thing, however, you must promise, and that is, that if you succeed, you will not forget that I also am fettered here by the power of Jahvorka, the Jin whom you saw with the damsel in the forest."

So the Prince swore to him to do all that he should require for him; whereupon Mateemat called to an oriole who had made her nest in the date palm-tree, and asked:

"How of the parrot in the golden cage?"

In reply, the bird arched its wings over its head, and chirruped and flirruped hastily, but Ahmed could understand nothing, for he knew not the language of the birds.

"The parrot is in the forest of Thrice," said Mateemat; "a still many furlongs deep. Over the cage are layers of deadly serpents, and over the serpents layers of water, and over the water a layer of fire. You will know the well by the column of smoke hanging over it, which can be seen many miles off."

So saying, the genii gave to Ahmed a small copper gong, curiously wrought and set with emeralds, and told him that if he were in any deadly peril and wanted help, he must lay himself on his back on the ground with the gong over him, and strike three blows thereon. After this Mateemat would say no more, but again began to write in the sand, and to all Ahmed's solicitations only replied by a sign that he should depart; so with many obeisances the Prince took his leave.

Returning toward the forest, he did not go in the direction which he had come the night before, but took a more southerly course, for, said he, I did not see any smoke before in that part of the forest, or I should have noticed it. So he traveled until nightfall, and reaching the border of the forest once again, he climbed a tree to get what sleep he could, for he was afraid to sleep on the ground among the dark overhanging trees. When it became light in the morning, he climbed higher up, until he reached the topmost bough, which swayed and bent with his weight; looking round, far in the distance, he saw over the tops of the trees a dark cloud, as of smoke, rising up. On seeing this he was joyful, thinking that "This, perhaps, is the smoke that the genii told me of. I only hope it will not turn out to be some extraordinary large Jin; however, it won't much matter if it is, for he will not be able to see me."

So saying, he put his hand to his turban to adjust it, and feel that the simoorg's feather was in its place, but it was no longer there; it had fallen out probably when he mounted the tree on the night before, but though he searched everywhere, not a sign of the feather could he discover. Now Ahmed was greatly disheartened at this, but still he was not going to give up his object, so he repeated the confession of faith, and directed his steps toward the quarter where he had seen the smoke rising. On and on he walked through the thick trees, until at last he heard the roaring and crackling of a great fire.

"This, then," thought he, "is the place; but what to do next I cannot tell."

And as he stood there thinking, the rushing and roaring of the flames grew louder and nearer, and he saw that a great fire was spreading and running out, as it were, into two wings on each side of him. Then he became alarmed, and tried to retrace his steps; but, fast as he went, the mighty fire crept along faster, and the smoke and sparks began to come so thickly that the Prince, growing dizzy and bewildered, tripped and fell full-length upon the ground. As he fell, the little gong, which he had suspended from his neck by some twisted grass, striking against a stone, gave out a pleasant mellow note, a sound which spoke of most welcome assistance to poor Ahmed, and called to his mind the words of Mateemat; so quickly turning upon his back, he called upon the name of Allah, and struck three blows upon the gong. On came the fire, crackling and roaring with fury to obtain its victim, but under his head Ahmed heard another sound, as of creeping myriads; the earth beneath him seemed growing soft like mire, and he felt that he was settling down in to it. Myriads of small white insects with yellow heads were working beneath him—they were the white ants. Down he sank, lower and lower. Ah! how the fire cracked the great trees in anger over his head, but by this time he was twenty feet down and safe. After recovering somewhat from the first shock of his position, Ahmed looked round as well as he could on his narrow bed, and on the whole was not at all sure that he would not have preferred taking his chance above to being buried alive below. Above him the walls of the shaft down which he had come were alive and swimming with white ants. The Prince found this work decidedly unpleasant; besides, the dust and ashes from above kept falling into his eyes and making him sneeze, which, as everybody knows, is a most unlucky thing. Well, there was the gong; but then its effects were very doubtful, and it would not be at all surprising if its sound should be taken as a signal that he wished to sink quicker; but anything, he thought, would be better than this. However, just as he was going to strike, he fancied that there was some diminution in the crawling mass beneath him, and so he held his hand. The long and almost perpendicular shaft, at the bottom of which he lay, some thirty feet deep, looked very gloomy, and Ahmed felt a cold shudder run through him, for he fancied that the little bit of blue sky which was visible at the top had grown smaller. Yes, decidedly the creeping had stopped, and all the ants were hastening up the sides of the shaft, and disappearing one by one into the round holes or antgalleries that could be seen all round. Ahmed waited and waited, looking for what would happen, when suddenly he thought he heard a tiny murmuring from one of the ant-galleries which was rather larger than the rest, and suddenly from the earth, on each side of the entrance, sprang forth two small lamp-like flames, and swarmed a host of small scarlet beetles, who took up their position to the right and left of the whole; then came twenty-four white spiders; they were transparent, and Ahmed could see the life-liquid running through their bodies. These spiders pulled and hauled at a rope made of their own threads, until at last a small car of copper and emerald, shaped like half an egg came into view, and in this sat a personage, a thing which Ahmed at once determined in his own mind must be the king of the white ants, and so he was. This creature had a long yellow-ringed body like a worm, which looked like dead baby-flesh; he had no legs, but this writhing naked body was crowned with a human head, very small and very wizened; but a head it was, and out of the top of it came what Ahmed thought was its crown—it was shaped like a silver lily. Ahmed hastened to offered his salutations; at the same time begging that his Highness would excuse his rudeness in not rising, but that the fact was, he was afraid to move for fear of the sides of the shaft falling in.

The king nodded his head, and the twenty-four spiders immediately attached twenty-four threads to the small copper car, and let it down, until it came about a foot above Ahmed's face. Then the wizened little face peered at Ahmed over the side of the car, and the silver lily nodded and shook, as a mighty voice, like iron striking iron, demanded in deep tones:

"What did Mateemat require of his friend, and why had the young man come hither?"

And Ahmed answered—

"Oh, my lord, I seek the parrot in the golden cage."

Then rolled forth the thunderous voice in words that the Prince did not understand, but it was apparently an order, for all the millions of white ants with which the walls were studded depressed and then elevated their antennæ, and Ahmed involuntarily translated this movement audibly to himself—

"To hear is to obey."

Swift ran the twenty-four white spiders, up rolled His Majesty's hemispherical ear, and the silver lily nodded an adieu to the Prince, as the wizened little face disappeared into the crevice from whence it had issued. Blow trumpets! advance the oriflamme! and the little army of red beetles march statelily off, bringing up the rear! and at the same time Ahmed became aware that he was once more upon his travels, sliding head first into a hole in the side of the shaft. Darkness fell upon him, and a deadly fear, as he was impelled along upon a million of small legs which crawled beneath him. On, on, in the cold dreary darkness, no sound but the crackling rustle of myriads of insects, like a hundred pin-points beating upon ivory. The Prince lay afraid to move, hand and foot bound with fear, till a hollow roaring sound, dull and muffled at first, but coming nearer and nearer, told him that he was nearing the pillar of fire. Suddenly the movement stopped, and slightly turning his head, looking through a cleft in a large mass of rock before him, Ahmed gazed once more into an open space, small and confined, a mere rock chamber, but still a space that gladdened his heart.

There, before him, on a pedestal of adamant, veined with beryal, was the glittering golden cage, and within sat the bird, the object of all his perils and troubles. Many-colored and beautiful was the bird, as it sat pluming itself and nibbling daintily at its food in the crystal trough by its side—curious and glancing was its eye in expression—a mixture of the monkey and the owl, at once grave and malicious. Up and down, hither and thither it looked, eyeing wistfully the thin white columns of the ants, as they poured out of the crevice, and advanced on to the cage from all sides. Meantime Ahmed watched in silence, thinking, "What will they do?"

And the ants by thousands, by myriads, by millions, swarmed up the cage, and through the wires, covering the parrot. At first the bird only pecked at them pettishly, but as they increased in number, their bites became insupportable, so that the parrot screamed loudly, and fell from its perch, and its screams were like sharp needles piercing the ear. At the noise of this screaming, came two Jins,—vast, hairy and terrible,—and they went to the cage, cajoling the parrot, asking,—

"Why this noise, oh! greenness of beauty? Beautiful art thou, O parrot, even of the color of fresh-split emeralds."

Then, seeing the white ants, they stopped, saying, "What mischief is this?" and kneeling down, breathed fire upon the ants. Then the slender white columns were scorched and rolled back by their devouring breath, but still the cage remained full, and they dared not breathe therefor fear of hearing the cold again came forth fresh swarms of the tiny white insects, and the cage was soon covered as before. They then succeeded by the heat in melting the cage; but still the ants came on like a never-ceasing torrent, and the bird in its agony screamed still more incordantly; so the genii were absashed, and put their fingers in their mouths wondering. At last one said to the other:

"Of a truth there is mischief in this. Go you and call the master."

So one went, but soon returned, saying:

"I went, but found him sleeping above, beneath the sacred pupal tree, and I dared not disturb him, for his wrath is terrible."

Then the parrot, like to die, screaming, said, "Kan meir puttur, kan meir puttur."

Immediately the ants ceased from biting, and commenced to retreat, seeing which, Ahmed said to himself:

"What is this? Can this be the secret? 'Kan meir puttur'—'in his ear the stone.' What is this? I will try."

Suddenly he bethought him of the dark brown stone with the yellow sparkles, with which the Jin Jahvorka had touched the lips of the lovely damsel in the forest glade, and it seemed to him almost as if the daylight had shone upon him, so great was his joy.

"That, then, is the secret of his power, and he carries it in his ear! oh! lovely parrot!"

Again they moved on through the long dark tunnel, which his indefatigable little allies drove forward, and Ahmed wished with all his heart that all this underground business were over. As he lay there, impelled along so slowly, that he almost forgot that he was moving, his thoughts went forward to what he would do when he became possessed of this wonderful stone, this talisman of power and supremacy. What would he do? Well, first he would free that lovely princess (she could not be less than a princess, as she was so beautiful,) and marry her; then the good Mateemat, to whom he owed his success, would be re-instated as ruler of the Jumis; and then, having laden himself with rubies, he would return to the city of his fathers, dispossess the usurper, and reign happily ever after. Dispossess the usurper; yes, very good! but how? Why, thought he, the rubies will be an admirable introduction to the royal favor, and I am certain to be asked where I got them, and shall then reply that they come from Paradise; on this most surely the King, who will be anxious to possess himself of my beautiful wife, will propose that I should make another trip thither, and to this I shall assent, stipulating that the court shall fast and pray four days for my safe return, for during the fast my wife will be safe. Then the King will have a large heap of wool, wood and other combustibles piled round me in the big square, and all the court will give me messages and instructions to their departed ancestors. Just before the fire is lit, I shall assume my feather of invisibility, (for the simoorg will surely give me another on my return,) and walk forth unseen to my house; the genii will procure me the old family seals of the different people, the King included, who have given me messages to the departed ones, and I will then write sealed and authentic replies to all, telling them that Paradise is such a delightful place that they cannot do better than come there under my guidance. On the fourth day I shall present myself before the King, and deliver all the answers to the letters; the King and all his ministers will enter the fire with me, and while I shall be conveyed away by the genii, they will be consumed, and I will then produce my father's signet, and take possession of the throne.

As Ahmed thus soliloquized, he saw that the ants had driven a small tunnel up into the earth right over his face, and that down this circular opening streamed the partially-obscured daylight. Also, over the hole he saw what looked like a great pointed hairy ear. He gazed wondering, and even as he gazed, down upon him from the ear fell a brown glittering stone. As it touched his breast, strength returned to Ahmed's limbs, courage to his heart; he clutched it in his hands, and rising, fastened safely in the folds of his sash the talisman which promised victory over the Jins. Boldly he strove to climb up the narrow shaft, and as he came out once more into the light of day, Jahvorka, with his long-pointed ear still in the position whence the stone had fallen, took no heed. Then Ahmed knew his power, and gazing round, beheld at the foot of a tree the Princess wrapt in slumber, as when his eyes had first dwelt in ecstasy on her beauty. He drew near timidly, and covered her hand with kisses, but sleep held the Princess fast. He raised the helpless form in his arms, and began to give way to despair. At this moment some hard substance pressed against his arm. The talisman! He snatched it from his sash, and placed it against the half-parted lips. Allah kerim! The dark eyes were open, wondering at the face of Ahmed as he bent over her.

"Adorable Princess! the power of the accursed black angels which had thrown its spell over you is at an end; rise, that we may fly together from this place of desolation."

And the Princess, with a look of terror toward the prostrate Jin, came to the side of Ahmed, who plunged boldly into the forest.

A beautiful oriole, whose plumage gleamed like living gems, seemed to invite the pair onward through the winding glades, now by glancing joyously backward and forward before them, now by calling from a more distant tree, and, with the precious talisman in his hand, Ahmed followed in faith. Ere long the mighty trees and tortuous alleys melted as it were from their path, and the oriole settled in the single palm-tree, under which sat Matemat still chained. The star on the forehead of the genii grew larger and brighter as Ahmed and the Princess drew near him, saying—

"Genii, the power of Jahvorka is gone; the maiden stands beside me. How shall I redeem my vow?"

"Touch these fetters with the stone, Ahmed."

And at the touch the chain dissolved, and Mateemat stood free; but at the same moment darkness fell upon the eyelids of Ahmed, and he became unconscious.

When light again broke upon him, the Prince started up to find himself under the date palm which shadowed the grave of his mother, and he thought, "Allah! what dreams!" But as he rose, at a little distance lay the Princess in a calm sleep, beautiful as the morning. This was no dream, and scattered round her lay numberless rubies—large, blushing in the morning sun.

The talisman of Jahvorka had vanished. To mortals it was but as any pebble of the desert. But the rubies were wealth, and the signet on his finger was power, and the people of Meydoon were happy under the wise rule of Ahmed and the Queen of the Rubies.

A SHORT-HAND WRITER.

From the Chambers' Magazine.

Of all the short-hand writers in the precincts of Lincoln's Inn, Cornelius Bubb stood the highest in matter of inches. He was six feet six, and very thin from constant lack of sleep in term-time. He was known in the Lane as the man in black—he had black clothes, black hair, and black looks. He was very sharp—his walk was sharp, his tongue was sharp, and his pen was sharp. The more business he got, the worse his temper grew; but it was all bark—there was no bite in it. If he scolded a poor wandering short-hand clerk one night, he was none the less ready to give him another job the next, should he happen to call. The most deadly offence in his eye was correctness. He could be spiteful to clerks who were clever enough to give no occasion for criticism. He gave the preference over such to clerks who were human, and who erred. These gave a nightly feast to irony and sarcasm. Disappoint him of his meal, be as sharp and immaculate in copying from your short-hand notes as himself, and you forfeited his friendship forever. You were a conceited fellow—an unpleasant companion from four P. M. to perhaps the small-hours of the morning.

One Thursday night in November, when Michaelmas Term was a week old, Mr. Bubb strode along from his modest dining-place through the cold fog in the lane toward his office. He stepped quickly up the dark, unlighted staircase, and stooped into his rooms. There were only some thirty or forty folios to write out, and then he was free to use a ticket for the Opera given him by a friend. In the outer or clerks' office, was his established clerk—a boy of ten years, who lived in the regions below with his mother. There was also a stranger waiting—a young man with a note-book in his hand.

"Nothing to-night," said Bubb, who could not yet afford to pay others for doing what he could do himself.

The stranger turned to go.

"If you please, Sir," said the boy, "Hume and Smollet have sent round to say they want the evidence in Jones and Perkins by 9 o'clock to-morrow."

"What!" cried the disappointed play-goer.

The boy repeated his message.

"Why, there's three hundred folios of it, and I've told everybody I shouldn't want them. Run down the Lane, and if you don't find some of them never show your useless face here again. Run!" The boy disappeared on his errand.

"And now," said Bubb, turning to the stranger, who had lingered, "you are in for it. There's three hundred folios to do before you leave this office."

"Very well, Sir."

This philosophic reply caused Bubb to scrutinise the stranger more narrowly. He was dressed in an Inverness cape; he held his round hat respectfully in one hand, and a brand-new reporter's note-book in the other. He looked very young; his voice was not broken; his cheeks were smooth, and free, as yet, from whiskers; his dark hair was short and curly; his black eyes had a merry look in them; in fine, he was a very good-looking boy.

"You never meet you before," remarked Bubb. "Where did you learn short-hand?"

"At home, Sir."

"Have you ever done such work as mine before?"

"No, Sir."

"Good gracious! Then perhaps you can't do it? I am sure you can't. You don't look as if you could. And what's to become of me?" Do you know what three hundred folios mean?"

"No, Sir."

"I thought not," said Bubb contemptuously. "Well, then, I'll tell you: it's more than twelve hours' hard work. And what will become of me? If that boy doesn't find some help, I'll hang him."

"It is true, Sir, that I have never done this work before," persisted the short-hand novice, "but you can't tell whether I can do it or not till I have tried."

"An Irishman said something like that when he was asked if he could play the violin," remarked Bubb severely.

Here his boy-clerk returned. "I can see nothing but the fog, Sir, if you please."

Under the pressure of business, his master designed no reply but a look—"What is your name?" he demanded of his would-be assistant.

"John Smith, Sir."

"A very remarkable one. Sit down opposite me there, and tell me if I read too fast." He opened the note-book in which he had taken down the evidence in Jones *versus* Perkins, and began to read aloud. John Smith wrote it down in his own short-hand in the note-book he had brought with him, beginning the questions at the extreme left, and the answers in the middle of the page. He had nearly filled a couple of slips, when Bubb stopped suddenly and watched how far he was behind. Only four or five words.

"Read!" said Bubb.

John Smith read it unhesitatingly. Bubb tried hard not to feel pleased, but failed.

"Write it out on this paper. Begin six lines from the bottom—I will put the heading in afterward—and mind, put the 'Qs' and 'As' in the margin."

Without a word, John Smith did as directed, and that in a swift, clear handwriting.

"Don't leave blanks," said Bubb, "and don't puzzle over a word you can't make out at once; ask me."

But Smith had nothing to ask.

"You'll do," remarked Bubb, pithily. A bright thought struck him. "You can't expect, Mr. Smith, the same pay as an experienced hand. Twopence per folio is what such a man gets, and we reckon about eight folios in a sheet of evidence. I'll give you three-half-pence; will that do?"

"Yes, Sir," replied Smith humbly. So at their work they went—Bubb dictating about fifty folios at a time to Smith, with directions to fit it in on the right side of a sheet, and then copying out himself the continuation from his own note-book. They worked on thus without interruption, save a cup of tea and a hastily swallowed crust, till between 3 and 4 the next morning, when all the evidence was written fairly out.

"Come as soon after 3 this afternoon as you can," said Bubb, as he parted with his new assistant at the door of this office; "I have a case in Kinderley's Court." Bubb returned to read over, page and stitch in a neat cover his many sheets of manuscript. Then he made himself a bed on the couch in his own office, and slept soundly till 8 o'clock, when his boy-clerk came up from the kitchen with his breakfast.

That night the office of Mr. Bubb presented a noisy and busy scene. The outer one was crowded with assistants, who smoked and wrote and talked, and sent out the boy for beer, which they passed in through under the door of the table—who were constantly asking questions, and making mistakes, and occasionally swearing, *sotto voce*. The door of Mr. Bubb's private office was ajar, and from thence his snarl and sneer came to them in rapid sequence. All the evening they had been taking turns to be dictated to at Mr. Bubb's desk, and the wrangling between him and his slow dictatees—his erring favorites—was ever in the ears of all. The law-stationer's boy had worried Bubb into a state of fury. But he never became confused; his clear head reveled in the general distraction. Not so his new assistant, John Smith; he had asked leave early in the evening to work in Mr. Bubb's room.

"As you like—on the stairs, if you please, so long as you get it done," said his master.

It was eleven o'clock; Bubb had given out the last of his notes, and the law-stationer's boy was snoring in a corner, ready to be shaken up for the last sheets. Near them was seated young Smith, straining hard to keep his eyes open, and forcing sore reluctant fingers to finish his task. An assistant brought in the last of his work, and then made a speedy exit. But his master's tongue followed him. Running his eye maliciously over the sheets, Bubb cried out: "I say, Dixon, do you mean to say you did this yourself?"

"Yes, sir," responded the assistant from the outer room.

"I can't believe you, Dixon," replied Mr. Bubb; "there are only sixteen words misspelt." A loud laugh from his comrades. At this moment the new assistant gave in—his head dropping helplessly on the desk. Bubb jumped up and raised him gently, and was about to unfasten his neck-tie and waistcoat when, with an exclamation of dismay, he drew back as if he had burnt his fingers. Smith opened his eyes and revived wearily.

"I thought you had fallen asleep, Mr. Smith," said Bubb, in strangely tender tones. "Have you much to do?"

"No, Sir." And poor Smith went at it again, while Bubb watched him curiously.

"Dixon," he called out, "have you gone yet?"

"No, Sir."

"Then come here; I want you." Dixon entered the sanctum. "Here's our new friend, very tired; perhaps you don't mind seeing him home. He has nearly finished."

Smith was too fatigued to object, if he had any objections; indeed, he had to lean very heavily on the arm of the good-natured Dixon.

"Come to-morrow with your bill," said Bubb as they left. "The fresh air will revive you. You will take care of the boy, Dixon?"

In the outer office, among the seasoned old-sters, the boy excited much sympathy. Ignoring in their kindness the eye of Bubb, they openly offered him their pewter pots to drink from. Smith faintly thanked them, and declined.

On Saturday morning, Smith presented his first account to Mr. Bubb in that gentleman's private office. He paid it at once, cutting off an odd ninepence for luck, as he said. Bubb always contrived to pay first accounts when due; it made people's minds easier under any delays that might take place with other accounts. Smith was retiring with his well-earned money, when Bubb, clearing his throat, detained him with these words: "Mr. Smith, I have nothing to do with your private affairs; you do what I pay you to do; still—still I think you ought to give me a reference."

Smith blushed like a girl, and stammered out: "I can give you a note to Dr. P—— of Bloomsbury; he knows me."

Mr. Bubb eagerly assented. How will he word it?" thought he. His curiosity was pictured so plainly in his face, that Smith, with a smile, politely handed it to him to read. "Dr. P—— is earnestly begged to say a word of recommendation in favor of his young friends the Smiths." Bubb felt disappointed. He took some interest in this cheap and able short-hand writer, and the clever vagueness of the note still kept him in the dark. He watched Smith from the office-window till he was out of sight, and then started for Dr. P——'s. The doctor was very busy; could spare Mr. Bubb only two minutes.

"Seeking work from you, sir, I presume? Well, the Smiths are highly respectable and trustworthy; poor from misfortune. Take my guarantee for any materials however costly you may trust them with, whatever your business may be. Good morning, sir."

"Excuse me; I am a cautious man," said Mr. Bubb. "What misfortune?"

"The father—wealthy man—turned his son out of doors. The daughter left with him, and will not return till he is forgiven. The son is consumptive—won't live long. Good morning, sir. You have my guarantee."

On his way back, the sharp-tongued, short-hand writer composed a beautiful romance, with himself for the hero, and his new assistant for heroine. The plot ran thus: The discarded son of a wealthy father is ill, and Mr. Bubb finds employment for his faithful sister at a reduction only of a half-penny a folio. She is grateful; she is also not insensible to his personal charms—she loves him. The discarded and consumptive son dies. The wealthy father calls back his daughter to his penitent bosom; and at the expiration of the fashionable term of mourning, Mr. Bubb marries his late charming assistant, now heiress-at-law to her father's wealth.

For the remaining weeks of the term, however other assistants fared, there was always something for young Smith. For him Mr. Budd suspended his economical habit; he sat idle himself rather than turn young Smith away

rer CHEESEMAN was mobbed in the streets, and obliged to hide for his life, for simply rising in a public meeting, which professed to be open for free discussion of the currency question, and declaring that the Government paper was better than rags, and that a patriotic people should show their confidence in the stability of the nation by accepting it. I was present at the meeting, heard him hissed and hooted down (before he opened his mouth, immediately on his face being recognized); heard him denounced as a "hireling;" saw the audience wait for him in the lobby of the hall, and the street, outside, on the meeting being dispersed, and hunt him to the door of a drug-store, which fortunately happened to be open, with oaths and curses, a few friends spiriting him away by a back-door, and placing him in the hotel above, where he was safe from violence. And for hours afterward, I saw the crowd howl and rage around the doors, until the police, all of whom were turned out for the occasion, finally succeeded in dispersing them, on showing that the object of their displeasure was beyond their reach.

I have an idea that more than one of that same rabble will yet be calling for one of those despised greenbacks to cover his nakedness, even as Dives once howled for a drop of water to cool his parched tongue!

But I, for one, do not share in the growing impression that money would immediately become plenty upon the repeal of the Specific Contract Law* and the adoption of the national currency. There is already more money in the market than can find investment—more than can be loaned on good security. As is always the case, those who do not want money can get it on very small interest; those who want it the most cannot get it all. And I do not see how the introduction of greenbacks is going to loosen the strings which bind the purse of capital. The Bank of California would not, I apprehend, loan me $15,000 in greenbacks any sooner than it would $10,000 in gold. (Think what a joke it would be for them to lend me anything at all!) It would require me to put up quite as much security if its capital were in legal tender notes as it now does when that capital is in gold and silver. But this is what our people do not see. With their contemptuous idea of greenbacks, they fancy that if our capitalists had them they would dispense them as freely as Autumn winds do dead leaves, being rather glad to get them off their hands than otherwise. They forget that as a representative of value those greenbacks are locked up in huge vaults and guarded with quite as much scrupulous care as they could be were they the value itself. It is very curious to me how men can be so absurd; but every day you will now hear the holder of mining stocks sighing for a greenback currency which would enable him to get an advance—all forgetting that it is want of confidence in the securities which they offer, and not a security of capital, which swings the bank doors remorselessly to in their faces.

How blessed am I, who cannot borrow, and have sworn a solemn oath not to lend. A few days ago there came to me, dated from the Bank of California, a printed circular, filled in with a neat Roman hand-of-write. The salient representation was as follows: "Your account appears overdrawn to the amount of $281 60. You will please give it your earliest attention." Give it my earliest attention, indeed! Of course I did. I knew before that the account was overdrawn, but immediately presented myself at the bank counter. The gentlemanly cashier expressed his surprise and pleasure at my promptness.

"You have come to make your account good, Sir?" he said.

"Of course I have," I replied.

And I filled up a note, signed it, and handed it over to him, telling him to write in any interest he pleased. The thing was done, and I went home, and slept that sleep which is reserved for the honest man who has made his bank account good, and intends to liquidate all the other debts he has been unfortunate enough to contract, the moment he can succeed in opening an account with another bank which will allow him to overdraw.

Speaking of banks—have you ever heard of an institution called the Faro Bank? I have. Like the poet—

"I know a bank whereon the wild thyme grows,"

and I have been there, and had a wild time, and that it is almost as wild a time as grows anywhere, you bet.

("You bet" is an elegant phrase, borrowed by us from the boulevards, and used on all possible occasions. It is the major proposition of California syllogisms, but includes in its sweep both the minor one and the final deduction. In its integrity, as directly imported from Paris, it reads, "You bet your bowels, and go your liver blind;" but as civilization advanced and esthetics spread, it was curtailed by degrees, from deference to the sensitiveness of the feminine ear, and now we only say "You bet," but all the rest is implied.)

It is understood on some sides here—we have biblical students among us—that the term faro is of Egyptian origin, and that the lean kine and Madame Potiphar are only to be considered as paraphrases of "Pharaoh's Bank." Surely, then, Joseph displayed the very ecstacy of common sense when he fled from the proposition of a mild time, and positively refused to buck against either.

But be that as it may, we are a queer people. A very few years since grumbling was as popular a profession as preaching, and much more profitable. The whole square where the City Hall now stands was the Valhalla of those gentlemen who, like those pristine "sport," Spring lambs, love to gambol, only preferring a green cloth to the green sward. Ah, those were jolly, good old days,

When every morning brought a noble game,
And every game brought out a noble fight.

The voice of the monte-dealer, as he called the cards, interrupted the rural tones of the minister in the church hard by: *messieurs, fair vos jeu*, and *Le jeu est fait*, broke rudely in upon "Sinners, make your choice," and "Repentance is too late," while the hilarious crack of the pistol, and the festive accompaniment of the wounded victim's squeak mingled with the anthems of chorus and swelling notes of the big bull-fiddles, which in those primitive days filled the place of organs.

Oh, but these must have been stirring times by all accounts. Nearly the whole city's population gathered around the tables; octagonal slugs and bags of glittering dust slapped down by men full of strange oaths, and bearded like a regiment of pards.

'Twere worth ten years of peaceful life,
To look upon their play,
And he that came live out thereof
Was he that ran away.

I am aware that I have dovetailed together two separate couplets from three different sources in the above quatrain, but never mind. Could you hear the legends that have been told to me of those early times, you would be as incapable of correct quotation or calm composition as is your correspondent. In those days everybody gambled, everybody drank, everybody swore, and there were few who did not do worse.

But the transition from Vikings to monks, from Bersarkers to shaven priests, is natural and easy enough, as history proves. Now a raid has been commenced upon the gamblers, and their utter extermination seems to be determined upon. Lo! the hosts of faro are to be overwhelmed by a sea of red tape, and his roulette wheels are to molder and rust in a grave as deep as that one which swallowed the chariot wheels of old. Our local authorities have made a raid upon the various gambling establishments; proprietors, dealers, players, all are snatched and hauled away to the Courts of Justice, where fines to the full extent of the law are pronounced upon all parties—and greenbacks are not taken in payment thereof.

This is the cause of a case which is now on appeal to the Supreme Court. Heretofore greenbacks have been taken in payment of fines, but lately NED WHIPPLE being fined, in the County Court before Judge COWLES, $1,000 for gambling, proffered the amount in greenbacks. The Judge refused to accept the currency, and said gold must be paid. WHIPPLE dared the Sheriff to lay hands on him, but he was rearrested, and now, as above stated, the case is on trial on appeal before the Supreme Court of our State.

Verily there is a spot for the gambler, and a place, I am told, where they fine him!

And recently a bill has been introduced into the Legislature, making it penal in $1,000 fine to be caught with even a pack of playing cards in your possession, or for a dealer in stationery or anything else to expose a "deck" for sale. Like Casibianca our Solons are determined to stand.

Upon the burning decks,
And crush "cribbage" into cabbage, besides laying out "old sledge" like a wedge. "No cards" seems to be the fashion of the present Winter.

Our gambling houses, though, are no common affairs. Of course there are low ones, conducted on cheap principles, but they correspond to the cheap hotels and boarding houses. Dark tales are told of these places, and even murder is hinted at as not an uncommon occurrence, when the victim wins in spite of packed cards and cheating bones. But not so in the houses where the young sports and blue bloods of our city congregate. Suites of rooms where the feet of the visitor fall upon Turkey carpets, and lounges and ottomens covered with the richest tapestry invite him to repose when weary, are to be found. An open sesame of some kind is necessary at the door, for no losel policeman, no seedy stranger—in fact, no stranger at all—is allowed within the gates. There is no tinsel about this establishment, no gilding, and no superabundant display of mirrors—all is substantial in its elegance, costly in its comforts. The doors, wainscottings and window casings are made of solid mahogany and rosewood, and so is all the furniture of the rooms. On a magnificent buffet stand wines and liquors of the rarest and most expensive brands; cigars of a flavor not to be found elsewhere fill a filagreed basket, and silver gleams around the throats of the cut-glass decanters as well as on every side. And the guests are all in keeping with the establishment; lawyers, doctors, bankers, merchants, even legislators—you are among gentlemen. The proprietors are courteous and hospitable as barons in their own right; after the proper introduction you are at liberty to walk in, look around, read all the publications of the day which lie scattered around the tables, play chess, draw-poker, or anything else you please; and beyond the polite inquiry of what you will drink, no one says a word and no one asks you to tackle "the tiger." You see him before you, quiet but implacable in his jungle; his tawny hide covers half the table and every once and a while he stretches out his claws and you hear the click of chips as he sweeps down the great ivory piles; but that is all. It has never been my fortune to see anybody blow out his brains, open his abdomen, or do anything else impolite around the table, for which reason I am inclined to believe that the stories we hear about such little digressions from the legitimate game are all the invention of romancists. And as in the present era no one varies the monotony of things by perforating a neighbor's person with a bullet, the whole thing may be considered as very unexciting—a bore, in fact. That the bank wins must be an undoubted fact, since otherwise the proprietors could hardly afford the magnificent breakfasts, suppers, and dinners which they give. It is an experience to attend one of these latter. You would fancy yourself at Delmonico's or the *Trois Frères*—yes, more, for those who have eaten at those establishments are always surprised when they sit down to dine in the jungle. There are about a dozen different courses, and everything, from the soup to the cigars and cognac, with which the repast concludes, is the most choice of its kind.

(Ask any of your people who have visited San Francisco, if they ever happened into "Whipple's," or "Jack Gamble's," and see what they say. For they do not think they are familiar with California scenery unless they drop in sociably like, at one or both of these places, to see the manners and customs.)

From investigations which I have made of late, I find that it is a mistake to suppose that the bank is always winner, though it has quite a considerable percentage in its favor. The expense of maintaining these establishments in the princely style which custom has made imparitive, is enormous, and a gentleman who is behind the scenes assured me the other day that within the past three months the leading establishments of the City is loser to an amount very little short of thirty thousand dollars. What wonder that gamblers are so preverbially free and reckless with their money when hundred of dollars lie upon every turn of the cards? A "twenty" under such circumstances seems small enough, though to the man to whom it stands as the representative of a week's hard work, it looks as large as a cart wheel. Before leaving this subject upon which I have unintentionally digressed, I cannot forbear remarking that to my thinking gambling can no more be suppressed by legislation than can suicide. The fool and his money are bound to be parted, and one can ride to the devil on any hobby which he chooses to mount.

A great deal of excitement has been occasioned by an attempt on the part of Senator HAGAR to interfere with our common school system, by introducing a bill into the Legislature which provides for a number of radical changes. The chief features of his bill are limiting the cost of school-houses, the course of study, the years in which pupils may avail themselves of the educational privileges which the public schools afford, and the powers of the Board of Education. Such a storm as the proposition has raised is seldom seen in a community. Schoolmasters, schoolmistresses and school children are swarming about his ears, and if the thing goes on he will represent the Iahmael rather than the Hagar of the period to all subsequent generations. We have a "High School," you know, where Latin is taught and music, and to tell our honest draymen, laundry women and whitewashers that their sons shall be cut off from communion with HOMER in his native tongue, and their daughters from a chance to thump a piano-forte to pieces in the interregnum of other household duties, is to strike a blow at the civil liberties of the land which our freeholders will not brook.

Misprints are always rather amusing, *i. e.*, to everyone but the writer of the article in which they appear. In a letter of mine about mines, which the last steamer brought out here, "evoked dividends" is good, but "extracted dividends" is better, as the phrase expresses the exact process by which they are sometimes placed upon the table—and as stockholders subsequently are very apt to find themselves in a stew. In that case I can very well imagine that my pot hooks were to blame. But it must have puzzled people to know what the "40 miner" was. Here again, perhaps, I was wrong. Instead of writing "40-niner," I might have made it "49er," and then there could have been no mistake. Figures cannot lie—even lay figures cannot.

Do your people take any interest in our theatricals? If so, I would of course endeavor to send you occasional scraps of correct information, for aside from the blunders which appear in Eastern mention of our stage matters, there are some most malicious misstatements; and I cannot imagine the source whence they are derived.

DAN. SETCHELL, after playing a very successful farewell engagement, sailed for New-Zealand and Australia on the morning of the 30th ult., leaving more friends behind than any other actor who has visited these shores in a good while. I've an idea he'll tickle the ribs of the ambitious cannibal who eats him.

There was a rumor in town two or three days since that the bark *Alice*, which sailed from here for Australia some two or three months ago with the WILSON-ZOYARA circus troupe, was wrecked soon after leaving Tahiti, and all hands, both passengers and crew, lost. I cannot believe it, for FANNY BROWN was on board, and who thinks she could sink? My only reason for giving the report any credence at all is because the *Alta* this morning contradicts it positively, and I never knew that journal to be right yet, particularly when it was dead-sure of anything.

At the Metropolitan Theatre, WHEATLEIGH yesterday concluded a farewell engagement. Opening in the "Whiteboy's Bride," he played a cross between *Danny Mann* and *Shaun the Post*, as *Redmond O'Hara*, the hero of the piece. Of the lighter shades of Irish characters he seems to have no conception at all, for his humor is as dry as a salted herring or a bleached bone. And why does he come to others to ape himself in his Danny Mannerisms? What necessity is there for his carrying the harshness and unpleasant angularities of that crook-backed old wretch into everything? In "The Elves," now drawing good houses at this theatre, he was entirely lost in the character of *Count Coldstream*—being left in the shade by nearly every other part in the piece. "The Elves" was very capitally put upon the stage by the Tibbetts' management. "Sam" was produced on Wednesday evening—WHEATLEIGH as the character which names the piece. If I am any judge of comedies, it is a fearful mess of trash. The critics here discover strong points of resemblance between it and a local comedy produced some seven months since, called "Our Friend from Victoria," which is not very complimentary to the author of the latter piece. But when one of them intimates that "Our Friend from Victoria" is borrowed from "Sam," I think he makes a mistake, as the former, if my memory serves me right, was played and printed before the latter was written. WHEATLEIGH took a benefit last evening and had a crowded house. He has only been in the country three years, but I believe he has taken five thousand benefits. On this occasion, after clearing, they say, fifteen or twenty thousand dollars from "Arrah-na-Pogue, it would only have been greedful to give a benefit to one of the orphan asylums, or both—we have two. But no; it is the cry of the horse-leech's daughter with these people, "Give! give!" A rather amusing story is told of the banquet which he promised his troupe on the fiftieth night of the presentation of "Arrah-na-Pogue"—his benefit night. It finally resolved itself into a tray of sandwiches and a bottle of whisky. On the night of his farewell benefit, after an elegant farewell speech had been made, a boy approached him, bearing a box in his hands. On being opened it was found to contain—sandwiches; and accompanying it was a note, as follows: "We, the attaches and employes of the Metropolitan Theatre, beg leave to reciprocate a late courtesy. Please accept the accompanying box of ham-sandwiches, with our warmest wishes for your success as an actor and manager. A more appropriate recognition of your merits as a gentleman we could not devise." He sails for the East to-morrow in company with his wife, Mrs. STEWART, the WORRELL sisters, and BANDMANN. The latter, by the way, had a large complimentary benefit at Maguire's Opera House on Monday night, and was presented with a gold medal. He played his farewell at the American Theatre last evening—SCHILLER's "Robbers"—in German.

At Maguire's Academy of Music we have had a brief and not remarkably brilliant season of opera, under the Brambilla dynasty, with MORLEY as tenor. Both BRAMBILLA and MORLEY have been in excellent voice, and sang surprisingly well.

EMILY THORNE has been playing at Sacramento for some weeks, under MAGUIRE's auspices. "Arrah-na-Pogue" was brought out up there with THORNE as *Arrah*, and HARRY WALL as *Shaun, the Post*—the other principal characters being taken by the same parties who played them in this City under WERALLISM. The putting of the piece upon the stage and the manner in which the characters is maintained are much praised by the critics of the Capital. The Thorne troupe have been playing at Marysville during the present week, but the lady, after playing three nights next week in Sacramento, returns to this city on the 18th, to assist in the bringing out of the "Seven Sisters" at MAGUIRE'S Opera House. She is a great favorite up country. This evening a new drama called "The Irish Mother," from the French piece "La Volense d'Enfans," played in Philadelphia as "The Child Stealer," is brought out at the Opera House this evening. The Metropolitan, since its spectacular pieces draw so well, will put on "The Bronze Horse" next week. In the *loges* at the latter theatre I occasionally see the fragile form of VESTVALI, looking as though no material bone in her body was yet broken by that osteologist of our coast, Prof. MAGUIRE.

And now you know quite as much about our theatre people and theatres as you would were you sauntering around among them with

C. H. W.

* The Specific Contract Law makes specific contracts for payment in gold binding, and all notes and agreements are so drawn up.

MEXICAN NEWS.

Further Particulars of the Capture of Alamos—Landing of Oyazonat Altala—Tixcala Taken by the Liberals and Retaken by the Imperialists—Reverse to the Imperialists at Angangueo—Regulars Defeated by Gen. Mendez—Death of M. Langlais, the French Financier.

From Our Own Correspondent.

HAVANA, Saturday, March 10, 1866.

The English mail steamer *Conway* arrived from Vera Cruz the day before yesterday, and brings news from Mexico City to the 27th ult. From Vera Cruz itself we have no news, as no papers were brought from there by the *Conway*.

Letters received at the capital from Guaymas give a sombre account of the late occupation of Alamos by the Republicans. The Republican force consisted of 1,300 men, commanded by MARTINEZ and CORREA. According to the Imperialist account, the Republicans passed two days in sacking the place, destroying whatever they were not able to carry off. All the houses except four were left without doors; the families resident in them were subjected to every sort of outrage and murder; among the victims of the latter were several poor women and two young children.

Eight days after these scandalous proceedings, some parties of cavalry were sent from Alamos to the neighboring farms, where a repetition of what had occurred in the town took place there likewise, not a herd of cattle being left on them.

The town of Alamos was almost deserted; the greater part of the inhabitants having sought refuge at Guaymas and other towns of Sonora. A cry of indignation and horror has been raised by these ruined families, who have moreover to deplore the dishonor or death to which so many of their members have fallen victims.

Letters from Guadalajara, dated the 11th ult., state that a republican leader, the *licenciado* OYAZON, had landed at Altala, having with him a body of North American officers and equipments, bought at San Francisco. It was believed at Guadalajara that OYAZON had joined CORONA, and that the two were about to attack Mazatlan. In the State of Jalisco, or department, as the Imperialists call it, of which Guadalajara is the capital, there had been attempts in some of the towns of the south to effect a rising.

Letters from Tula, dated the 8th ult., state that in the fight at Tantoxuquita, beside MENDEZ, five of his officers were also killed. The sacking of the place was so great, and the plunder so valuable, that it was thought the plunderers would leave off fighting to enjoy their unexpected booty in their homes. The legal archives of a large number of towns had been burnt by the enemy. From Chamal to Tantoxuquita there was not a roof to shelter its inmates, nor any food for the horses and cattle. All the prisoners taken from the small Imperial force at Tantoxuquita were put to death. Before killing them, the guerillas burst open with hatchets the packing cases, took out the most valuable of their contents, loaded the booty on mules and asses, and then set fire to the remainder of the merchandise that had been stored in the place.

The City of Tlaxcala was attacked and taken by the Republicans on the 18th ult., but reoccupied three or four days after by a detachment of Austrian troops sent from Puebla. The Republicans, in leaving, carried off as prisoner Gen. JOSE IGNACIO DE ORMACHEA, military commander of the department, having first sacked his residence. During the occupation of Tlaxcala by the Republicans, a convoy, with $8,000, belonging to the railroad company, and having as an escort about 30 or 40 men, arrived there, which were sequestrated by the Republicans. The Imperial troops, consisting of 500 Austrians, after taking possession of the city, which the Republicans quitted without attempting to defend, continued in pursuit of them.

Letters received at Toluca mention a disaster to the Imperial arms at Angangueo on the 14th ult. It appears that the militia of the last-named place, and the counter guerrilla corps of Tlalpujahua, commanded by Don JOSE GONZALEZ, arranged a plan of attack against the Republicans, who, to the number of 200, were at TAXPAN. The affair came off at daybreak on the above-named day, when the Republicans were completely taken by surprise, 46 being killed, including three officers, and 86 taken prisoners. Among the latter was an individual named AVZATE, who acts as Prefect of Zitacuaro, and some other leaders, 170 horses, several lances, and, in short, all that the enemy possessed fell into the hands of the victors.

The Imperial force, which consisted, says the account, of only 20 men, and who had to guard this large booty, instead of leaving immediately for a place of safety, as the Republicans counted no contemptible resources in the neighborhood, stopped at Irimbo to rest, without using any precaution. The Republicans at Zitacuaro, being informed of what had happened, proceeded immediately with a force of 300 or 400 against their opponents, and taking advantage of their negligence, surprised them in their turn on the evening of the same day, recovering all that had been lost and dispersing the Imperialists, who lost of the militia of Angangueo the Captain, Don ANTONIO GARRIDO, and four soldiers, who were killed, and of the counter guerrilla corps six or seven men, who were likewise killed.

A dispatch from the Prefect of the Department of Chihuahua, dated the 25th ult., states that an Imperial force, consisting of Mexicans, had been sent to Concepcion, the capitol of the District Canton. GUERRERO had dispersed completely the rebels, who, to the number of 400 men, were assembled in that place, commanded by Don JOSE GOMEZ, Don JESUS JOSE and Don JOSE MARIA CASABANTES. The greater part of the fugitives were being pursued by the militia of the river district below Concepcion.

Six deserters from the Austro-Belgian army, one from the French and another from the Mexicans, were shot last month at Tampico, having been taken at Panuco, where they had gone, by the Sub-Prefect and military commander of the place.

In the State of Oajaca, on the 24th ult., the town of Mahustlan, the chief place of the district of the same name, was attacked by a party of guerrillas, or, as the Imperialist account calls them, banditti, who, in the name of Liberty, to use the words of the Imperialist account, seized the money of the treasury that was there belonging to the political and judicial authorities, who were likewise captured, as well as the Revenue Collector. The guerrillas carried off their prisoners as far as the town of San Pedro Mistepeji, situated about two days journey from Mahustlan, where they were attacked by the military commander of the place, assisted by the inhabitants, and the prisoners rescued.

In the skirmish one of the guerrilla leaders and four of the men were killed, and several others taken prisoners, who are to be tried according to law.

News received from Guadalajara of the 18th ult. states that for several nights past the military posts had been strengthened and some of the heights that command the town occupied. These precautions, whose true cause was not known, were attributed by the public to what had occurred at Teocaltiche and other places northward.

Letters from Morelia of the 21st mention a battle as having taken place between the Imperial forces and those of REGULES on the preceding day at noon; the particulars were not then known, but it was supposed to be in favor of the Republicans. The engagement occurred in the plains of Coeneo, beyond Patzcuaro. A force of Pinto Indians, from the State of Guerrero, were said to have just joined REGULES. An official dispatch of a later date, received by telegraph, states that the Imperialists, under Gen. MENDEZ, gained the advantage, the Republicans, after a severe fight, having been defeated; 400 prisoners having been taken, and a large number of the Republicans killed.

We have a rumor that the distinguished French financier, who arrived lately from France for the express purpose of organizing the financial department of the Mexican Empire, died suddenly on the 23d ult., on entering his house from a drive which he had just taken in company with his physician. The cause assigned was an attack of apoplexy.

The merchants of Vera Cruz are about to make representations against the new system of customs being made applicable to merchandise now on its way to Mexican ports, that were shipped before the promulgation of the new law, as well as to the large quantity which is now warehoused in Vera Cruz and intended to be sent into the interior of the country.

Naval Affairs on the Mississippi.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

MOUND CITY, Saturday, March 10, 1866.

Naval matters at this place are excessively dull, and exhibit quite a marked contrast with the state of affairs here one year ago. At that time there were over 100 vessels in commission at this point, and continual bustle and activity were the characteristics of the station. This fleet has been dispersed in every direction, the greater number of the vessels composing it having been sold, and only three or four steamers in commission remain to remind us that Mound City, Ill., is the naval station of the Mississippi. Since the 17th day of August last, when the first sale of naval vessels here took place, 79 vessels have been disposed of by public sale, while a considerable number of chartered vessels have been returned to their owners. The prices realized have been very fair, as a general thing, and in some cases have much exceeded those obtained at New-York for similar vessels. The steamers in commission here are the *Grampus*, (receiving ship,) *Kate*, *Mignonette* and *Fawn*. The iron-clads laid up at this place are the *Catawba*, *Mantayunk*, *Neosho* and *Oneota*. It is said that as soon as the navigation opens these vessels will be removed to some other station not named. A depot for iron-clads has been established near New-Orleans, and the following vessels are laid up there: *Chickasaw*, *Choctaw*, *Cincinnati*, *Kickapoo*, *Lafayette*, *Manhattan*, *Osage*, *Tennessee* and *Winnebago*.

HAVANA.

State of the Island of Cuba—Fire at Cardenas—Fires in the Cane Fields.

From Our Own Correspondent.

The state of society in this island is becoming more and more deplorable, robberies and murders being of daily occurrence. The day before yesterday a woman was found murdered in her house in Lamparilla-street, at the corner of Comportela-street, in the very heart of the city. Robbery is supposed to have been the cause. She was found dead with her throat cut, both of the jugular veins having been severed.

A short time ago, a young man who lived in Reina-street left his house to buy some cigars in the Plaza Vapor, a few yards off, and on his return was attacked by two men, who not satisfied with robbing him, stabbed him, one in the breast and the other in the back, from the effects of which the unfortunate youth died a few days after. Several robberies have been effected in a similar manner in broad daylight, in the public streets; and the victim, standing as he does between death in front and death behind, has no remedy but to submit quietly, as to cry for help would be only his destruction.

The fire referred to which I alluded in a former communication, as having taken place in the district of Remedios, and which had led to various surmises, have been satisfactorily explained; the parties being guilty of nothing beyond carrying arms without a license.

A telegraphic communication from Cardenas yesterday mentions the destruction by fire in that City of the warehouses of Messrs. ACEVEDO, CUESTER & Co., and PENA. There have been lately accounts of fires in various parts of the island in the cane fields, but nothing said as to whether they were by accident or designedly, most likely both, as the smallest spark is sufficient during the present dry season to ignite so inflammable a material as the burnt-up, standing cane, and this may be thrown by accident or from malicious purposes, according to the inclination of the individual. As the cane is the future wealth of the planter, the probability of such a casualty keeps him in a state of anxiety until it has been cut and carried to the sugar-mill.

The Spanish war steamer *Isabel la Catolica* arrived a few days ago. The *Evening Star* arrived yesterday.

The political Governor of the City, MICHELENA, has resigned, but his successor had been already appointed at Madrid. His sojourn in office would not have been of long duration. In the interim a well-known Cuban nobleman, the CONDE DE CANONGO, is acting as head of the Municipality. Perhaps on the principle that a new broom sweeps clean, MICHELENA's successor may do something to correct the abuses that have increased during the administration of his predecessor; it is, however, more to be wished than expected. The new political governor formerly held an official appointment here, so that he will not be a greenhorn when he comes out.

Three war steamers have just entered the port as I mail this letter, an American, a Spanish and an English one. As they have only just entered, and are saluting the Spanish flag, I have not time to inquire their names nor those of their Commanders. The American steamer *Stars and Stripes*, from Philadelphia, also arrived this morning.

LARA.

FROM MATAMORAS.

News from Mexico—Monterey's Inhabitants and Mr. De La Hayrie—Sonora and Sinaloa—Tampico—$400,000 Worth of Goods Captured by the Dissidents—Difficulty at Orizaba Between Austrian Soldiers and Citizens.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

MATAMORAS, Mexico, Wednesday, Feb. 27, 1866.

The latest dates from Monterey state that the inhabitants of that city have ordered a splendid sabre to be presented to the Commandant DE LA HAYRIE, as a mark of gratitude for the important service he has rendered in driving the dissidents from in front the city. The situation in Sinaloa is disastrous. CORONA, who has been reinforced by PATONI, at the head of about 600 men, has now something like 2,000 men under him, among whom there are about a couple of hundred Americans, who are pillaging on their own account. He is yet in the vicinity of Mazatlan, and occasionally has a little skirmishing with the parties coming from that city. In Sonora and Sinaloa the French residents are the greatest sufferers. Their property is stolen daily. A memorial was sent by them to the Emperor NAPOLEON, apprising him of their situation.

The French troops reoccupied Chihuahua on the 11th of December. Two days previous, JUAREZ, who was notified of their coming, made a forced loan of $10,000 on the population of that unhappy town, and, accompanied by his Cabinet and his army of 25 men, he took the road to El Paso, where he arrived on the 18th.

During the twenty days that Chihuahua was occupied by JUAREZ, $80,000 were stricken at the mint, and the merchants have paid over $15,000.

The *Iris*, of Tampico, gives an account of an attack made by MENDEZ, the dissident, with 600 men, upon FRANCAENE's Depot, guarded by a company of cargadores of about 90 men, under command of Capt. MONTUMAR. More than $400,000 worth of goods were taken by the dissidents. What they could not carry off they burned.

Although the roads from Tancasnequi to Tels are guarded by 1,400 men, it does not insure the security of person or property. The most atrocious crimes are frequently committed. In a few leagues on the Santa Barbara road, a traveler counted 14 bodies hung to trees.

PEDRO BLANCO, one of MENDEZ's Lieutenants, has carried cruelty so far as to hang an entire family, including a child not above four years of age; yet the culprits are still at large. There is not a single village inhabited now on the Santa Barbara road. Several of them have been destroyed by fire. Chama was burned to the last house, because 300 dissidents could not subdue 37 French soldiers. No person is secure there, and a great many are leaving; and yet there are not more than 400 or 500 dissidents in that vicinity.

The above news is anterior to the last victory of the French, in which MENDEZ was killed.

On the 4th inst., the steamer *Sonora* landed at Tampico 160 men, belonging to the Mexican Contra Guerrillas, commanded by DUPIN, who was himself recalled to Mexico at the time of embarking. The next day the steamboat *Tamesi*, running in the river, took 105 of these soldiers to Tancasnequi, to reinforce JAQUIN.

Several difficulties have occurred between the Austrian soldiers and the citizens of Orizaba. It is feared that they will become serious, unless the authorities take steps to prevent it. The city is yet agitated with the late murder of SOLOGUIM by Austrian soldiers. The newspaper *Ferro-Carrie* has been censured by the authorities for its comments on the affair. The funeral of the victim was the occasion of a manifestation of the people's feelings toward the troops. Every inhabitant, rich and poor, united in the protest against the late conduct of the Austrians.

BROWNSVILLE, Texas, Wednesday, Feb. 27, 1866.

Gen. GETTY took command to-day of the District of the Rio Grande.

The band of outlaws who lately infested this city are now gone into the interior of Mexico—steps having been taken by the military authorities here which would place them in a very awkward position, if they had remained.

Civil law is now in force, which makes this city in very curious circumstances, from the fact that between the late military power and the new civil power, there is not much of redress to be had from either.

PALO ALTO.

THE PATERSON AND NEWARK RAILROAD.—Several correspondents having requested information of us respecting the Paterson and Newark Railroad, we proceed to lay before them all the details arranged up to the present time. A party of engineers have been at work for the last week staking out the exact route of the road prior to the commencing of active operations thereon.

The depot of the road in Paterson will be near Grand-street. Then the road will run west of the rolling mill, approaching the Erie road at the junction, where it is proposed to connect with the road and have a platform built. From this point it will run across the plank-road, through Major FONDA's place, through the ravine beyond, through the swamp to Centreville, thence almost directly to Franklin, and in a straight line to Belleville, through Belleville and across the river road a short distance above the Mount Pleasant Cemetery, along the river bank of the cemetery to Gouverneur-street, where it will cross the river and run along the west bank of the Passaic 300 or 500 feet west of the river road on that side, then to a point on the New-Jersey Railroad, about midway between the East Newark station and the bridge across the river at Centre-street. The New-Jersey road proposes to move their East Newark depot to this point.

At the cemetery, instead of the road running close along the bank, it will be run about midway between the shore and Green Island, the water being very shallow there. This will avoid the making of a curve around the banks of the cemetery and the building of a substantial stone wall, as at first proposed.

The length of the line will be, from Paterson to New-Jersey Railroad junction, 11 miles and 93 hundredths; from Paterson to Newark, 10 miles and 17 hundredths. It is proposed, if the stock is all subscribed, to commence operations on the line by the first of next month, and it is expected to complete it by the 1st of November if everything works well. It is designed to run frequent trains at low rates, and the running time between New-York will probably be inside of that occupied by the Erie road. Negotiations are pending with the New-Jersey Company to run the engines, and cars over their lines through to Jersey City. The guage will be 4½ feet, but the cross-ties will be wide enough to admit the laying of a third rail for broad-guage cars.—*Paterson Press.*

EUROPEAN ENGINEERING.

The Railroad over Mount Cenis—How a Locomotive is Made to Run Up Hill.

The passage of the Alps from Savoy to Piedmont, in the neighborhood of Mount Cenis is the only break in the long line of communication from the British Channel to the south of Italy. Forty-eight miles by the road built by the first NAPOLEON, which pass over the mountains from St. Michael, on the French side, to Suza, the first Italian town, is the only interruption to no less than 1,400 miles of continuous railroad between the ports of Calais and Boulogne on the British Channel and that of Brindisi, nearly opposite Corfu, where the placid Adriatic joins the Ionian sea.

This high road, already alluded to, built by the great NAPOLEON after the bloody victory of Marengo, is well planned and maintained in excellent condition, but the unavoidable annoyance, danger and fatigue in passing this mountainous barren in a vehicle, the locomotive power of which is a dozen or more mules or horses—occupying, according to the state of the weather, from nine to twenty hours—has made a serious, in fact the only serious difficulty to journey into Italy by land. Consequently many travelers, either for pleasure or business, prefer the sea passage from Marseilles, or the round-about and expensive route of the Cornice by the way of Nice.

In order to surmount this seemingly insurmountable barrier, the Kingdom of Sardinia during the ministry of Count CAVOUR in 1857, resolved to foster the herculean task of boring a tunnel right through the Alps, from Modane on the one side to Bardonèche on the other, a distance of no less than 12,220 metres, or somewhat over seven and one-half miles—a metre being 3 28 English feet.

The position of this huge subterraneous passage does not really transfix Mount Cenis, although commonly named after it, but it passes through another part of the same range.

With respect to the ultimate success of this bold undertaking, there can be no doubt whatever, it has already progressed too far for that. But on the other hand is a most difficult and tedious task—by far the most so of any engineering work in either ancient or modern times, with perhaps the exception of the Great Ship Canal in Sweden—it is impossible that it can be completed, at the present rate of progress, before the year 1874.

Last June an official inspection of the works was made by Capt. TYLER, of the Royal Engineers, for the information of the English Board of Trade, he reported that "headings" had been driven for 2,011 metres from Modane, and about 2,700 metres from Bardonnèche, thus leaving 7,509 metres—about 4⅔ English miles—still to be bored.

How the power was obtained which is necessary to operate the great number of heavy drills which are at work day and night in this dreary tunnel, must, ere this, have aroused the curiosity of the thoughtful reader. Of course, if manual labor could only be employed, it is safe to say that the tunnel would never be completed, at least not in a century. As to employing a steam engine in an ill-ventilated hole a mile or more under ground, that was out of the question, the fire in the furnaces would so vitiate the air by forming carbonic acid gas, that all hands would soon be asphyxiated, and die a sleepy death. And as for running a long shaft from the mouth of the tunnel to the point where the drills are operated, and turning this shaft by a steam engine on the outside, seems also to be an impracticable device, the constant liability to derangement of such a fix, as well as the trouble and delay of piecing out the shaft as the work progressed are alone fatal to this scheme. Hence, by an obvious course of reasoning, it appears that the only way to obtain the power necessary to work the drills, is to generate it on the outside, and transmit it by means of fluid in a pipe of sufficient strength to resist the required pressure, to the head of the tunnel. Of course the use of water is out of the question, that would soon drown everybody out, but air would not only transmit the power developed on the outside, but it would also, after performing its duty in driving the drills, ventilate the dismal cavern.

Accordingly, the drilling machines in this tunnel are worked by air which is compressed to five atmospheres to the square inch, by means of water-wheels situated in the valley below, to which are attached suitable compressing air pumps. These pumps, when the power is stored up, are upward of a mile and a half from this boring machines in the tunnel. The entire apparatus, water-wheels, pumps and drilling-machines were ingeniously contrived by Messrs. SOMMEILLER, GRANDIS and GRATTONI.

The "headings," as they are termed, are made by successive explosions of gunpowder, after the holes, which are about thirty-six inches deep, have been bored, or "tamped" into the rock. It is estimated by the engineers that the cost of the whole line will be £5,376,000; the entire distance, by way of the tunnel, from St. Michel to Susa, is forty-two miles.

As is well-known, the serious obstacles of the present Mount Cenis diligence road, have deterred the English Government from availing itself of this most direct, and but for the obstacle of the stubborn mountain, the most convenient route for the conveyance of the mails for India and Australia from London to Alexandria, from whence they are sent down the Red Sea to Point de Galle in Ceylon. By embarking the mails and passengers for these important places, at Brindisi, instead of Marseilles, the passage of the Gulf of Lyons, which is frequently very stormy in the Winter, is avoided, as in this case there will be no necessity of making the round-about stoppage at Malta; this will save some thirty-six hours in the voyage from London to Alexandria, which it is almost unnecessary to add, is a matter of the greatest importance.

All that is necessary, therefore, for the adoption of this direct and agreeable route, is the building of a railroad across the Alps, near Mount Cenis, to connect the terminus of the French railway at St. Michael's with the Italian terminus at Susa, which is about thirty miles from Turin.

Accordingly, as it was estimated, the tunnel could not be completed before 1874, it was proposed to build another railroad, to be laid down on the high road, built by NAPOLEON I., from St. Michael to Susa. The French and Italian Governments conceded sufficient of its great width for the railroad, still leaving ample space for the primitive horse and mule traffic.

At the time this project was broached, no locomotive was in existence which could climb the steep grades of a railroad over the Alps, even constructed on this high road. Nearly every one is aware of the fact that when steam was first thought of as a railway motion, it was thought by the most learned *savans* that it would be impossible for a locomotive to propel itself, much less to draw a load, even on a *level* railway, without placing parallel with the track a rack (or similar device) into which a cog-wheel attached to the driving axle of the engine should gear.

Without any experience to guide them, these persons supposed that the friction of the driving wheels of a locomotive would not give sufficient friction to transmit the power necessary to overcome the resistance of a train, (or even of itself.) But it has been found, however, by long experience, that even up to a gr

The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 1866.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

CONGRESS.

The Senate was not in session yesterday. The House met as in Committee of the Whole, nothing being in order but general debate on the President's annual message. There were few members in attendance. No interest was taken in the proceedings, which were anything but enlivening. Mr. HILL, of Indiana, addressed the House at length on the question of reconstruction and on general politics.

GENERAL NEWS.

A letter received at the Treasury Department from Frankfort, Germany, states that when the news reached here that gold had fallen to 137 in New-York, United States Five-Twenties went up to 74. It is probable that they will reach 80 so soon as it is known that gold has gone down to 130. The new Seven-Thirties, currency interest, the letter states, "are well received in the German markets, now that gold is declining, and can be exchanged for Five-Twenties there at two per cent. discount." The latter securities rose in a month from 70 to 74. In London, they sold on the 17th of last month at 67¼. But bank interest was then at 8 per cent., and consols at 86¼, and exchequer bills, carrying 3 per cent. interest, were below par ¼ of 1 per cent.

Major WYNKOOP's important mission of collecting the hostile bands of Cheyenne Indians, and placing them upon the reservations assigned them by the treaties of October last, held at the mouth of the Little Arkansas River, has been successful. A treaty was signed by MEDICINE, ARROW BIG HEAD, GEORGE BENT, HAIRY WOLF, BEAR TONGUE and RED IRON, all of whose names have been a terror to emigrants since the Chivington massacre. There were about 4,000 Indians present, including 800 warriors.

A fire broke out in the New-York Central Railroad freight depot, at Buffalo, at 6 o'clock yesterday morning, caused by a watchman upsetting a can of kerosene oil near the stove. The flames spread rapidly, and soon extended to a grain elevator belonging to the same Company. Both buildings were consumed, together with a large amount of grain and freight. The loss is estimated at over a million of dollars.

The Macon *Telegraph*, of March 13, says: "Hon. A. H. STEPHENS was in Augusta Wednesday last, *en route* for Washington City. There are some circumstances connected with his visit to the Federal Capital at this time that renders it a matter of peculiar interest to all the people of the South."

The United States steamer *Don* has sailed from Hampton Roads for Annapolis, Md. Her object in going thither is to take on board a number of midshipmen who have been assigned to duty in the West India Squadron.

LOCAL NEWS.

St. Patrick's day was celebrated with much spirit in this City. A procession which consumed two hours in passing the City Hall, composed of four regiments of militia and all the Irish temperance and benevolent societies, was formed in East Broadway at noon, and reviewed by the Mayor and Common Council in the afternoon. At St. Patrick's Cathedral Archbishop MCCLOSKEY celebrated solemn Pontifical high mass, and Bishop LYNCH, of Charleston, delivered a glowing panegyric upon St. Patricius Patrick. Solemn high mass was celebrated in other Roman Catholic churches. A Fenian mass meeting was held in the afternoon in front of the Presidential mansion of the Irish-American Republic in Seventeenth-street, and in the evening the orators and others banqueted at Delmonico's and the Maison Dorée. Brooklyn, for the first time in many years, celebrated independently, and the Irishmen of Hudson County, N. J., united in a grand demonstration in Jersey City.

A motion for an injunction in the case of CALVIN WITTY *vs.* EDWARD MATTHEWS, was argued yesterday at the Special Term of the Supreme Court, before Mr. Justice JAMES. The application,—reported in the TIMES of Saturday,—is made to restrain the defendant from taking down the walls of the building recently destroyed by fire, situated on Broadway, and heretofore known as the City Assembly Rooms. The decision of the Court is reserved. The Justice intimated that he would visit and inspect the premises in question before deciding the motion, especially inasmuch as there was a dispute as to the real condition of the walls.

A boy named FRANK HESSELS accidentally fired a pistol yesterday, and shot his mother, Mrs. ELIZA HESSELS, in the head, while she was cleaning the windows of their apartments, on the second floor, at No. 212 Spring-street. The wound is pronounced a fatal one. The family has been plunged in the deepest distress by the sad occurrence.

The Supreme Court yesterday, Justice BARNARD presiding, granted a decree of divorce in the case of CORNELIA LEE *vs.* NEWTON P. LEE.

St. Patrick's Day.

This anniversary was celebrated yesterday in the usual manner by parades, dinners and speeches. Owing to the reckless lying of two New-York daily papers, which have been for months working up a factitious excitement, some nervous people apprehended that the Fenians would make a demonstration upon Canada. Nothing of the kind occurred, nor was there any undue disturbance either in the States or the Provinces. In Montreal, where there was really serious apprehension, caused by the persistent falsehoods of the journals we have alluded to, there was a great but perfectly orderly turn-out of Irishmen, who called upon the Governor-General and heard a speech from him, and were afterward addressed by the Hon. DARCY MCGEE. Not a man in the vast crowd hesitated to express his loyalty to the British Government, and his willingness to fight in its support. In Vermont and in Michigan, where the mischief-makers had located their mythical armies, all was quiet, even to dullness. And so it was all along the border. From New-Brunswick to Lake Superior there was not the slightest sign of Fenian invasion, and it will take much better evidence than the lying dispatches printed in sensational papers to make any sensible man believe that any considerable raid was ever seriously contemplated.

Sanitary Reform.

We are glad to see all through the country a kind of epidemic of Sanitary precaution. Boards of health are being formed, nuisances are removed, cess-pools drained, filthy buildings cleansed, and sewerage is reformed. The physicians have taken up the matter, and no longer consider diphtheria, or scarlet fever, or diarrhœa, or intermittent and typhoid, as such "Mysterious Providences," but at once search for some sanitary cause in some such common influence as a defective privy, or bad drainage, or incomplete ventilation, or overcrowding of bed-rooms.

In this City there is an especial sanitary excitement, and with good reason. In certain wealthy blocks, where sore-throat, or diarrhœa, or fever, have prevailed in every house, the occupants have at length thought of looking at the ventilation of the sewers and the drainage of the cellars, and have not unfrequently driven off the diseases by improvements here.

We are rejoiced at such a movement, whether the cholera shall come or not. Our community are sufficiently intelligent, and must soon understand how miserably behind-hand they are in sanitary precautions. It is well known that small towns in England are far in advance of us in some of the ordinary precautions for preserving the public health.

The natural carelessness of a new country will soon give place to a wise provision in sanitary matters. In water-supply, our interior towns are quite equal to those of Great Britain; there is no reason why they should not be in other arrangements of sanitary science. The same evils which afflict New-York, trouble, in a less degree, smaller places. Many a New-England town and interior village or city of the Middle States, has its infamous, low lodging-houses, corresponding to those of the Five Points, its cottages mingled with pig-pens, its filthy and crowded tenement-houses, its nasty lanes and bad sewerage, or no sewerage. Cess-pools or undrained privies (those nests of cholera) abound in every American town. Slaughter-houses infect the air, and heaps of garbage invite pestilence. The Western cities are worse than the Eastern, and will suffer from cholera (if it comes), more proportionably, as they did in 1840.

We regard it as one of the most important features of our sanitary reform, just inaugurated in New-York, that it will furnish a model or a stimulus to the whole country. We believe that thus far the new Board have acted wisely and with energy. It needed no common courage to take the bull by the horns as they have thus done, in bringing up the butchers to the bar of public opinion. The *naïveté* of these latter persons was truly refreshing, as they expressed their surprise that any one could have found any injury to public health in their harmless establishments, or as they made this kind of proposition to the public to drive only *twenty* cattle at a time through the avenues of the City!

We trust that the Board will not let this first conference with the butchers end only in talk. The whole interest ought to be removed from the City, and the sooner the butchers prepare for this the better. Every slaughter-house is a centre of pestilence. With large abattoirs on each side of the city, immense savings might be made by the butchers in the preservation of blood, &c., and a great gain caused to the public health. The new Board have done wisely to appoint one of the most indefatigable workers in the sanitary field, as Registrar of Records. The bases of sanitary science are thoroughly accurate statistics. The Board ought to be able to determine exactly the annual death-rate of this City, (which never has been known precisely,) and the exact sanitary condition of every ward, and the precise effect, in figures, of life and death, of the new arrangements. This can only be done by thorough registration.

There should be no undue haste or impatience toward the new Board on the part of the public. A great and permanent machine like the present, cannot be set in perfect motion at once. The health-administration of a city like New-York is an immense affair.

When the suitable time comes for them to do so, we should be glad to have one great and all-pervading nuisance investigated; we mean the dreadful odor of sulphurated hydrogen which fills the whole City every evening about nightfall. It is supposed by some to come from the cleaning of the gas-works every night; by others to be a palpable product of the sewers.

In either case, it is an atmosphere of poison, and if possible should at once be dispelled by a removal of the cause.

The cleansing of filthy tenement-houses and breaking up of underground lodgings ought to be one of the next steps of reform. These are all fever-nests and hot-beds of pestilence. Such dens as have been reported by the Police in the Sixth and Fourth Wards, come clearly under the term "prejudicial to public health," and are therefore fit objects for the great powers of the new Board.

A crusade against the bad habits of our citizens in throwing garbage in the streets will be a struggle of years; yet it must be made, and that vigorously. An immense work can be done in this way, even in a short time. Contractors can at least be compelled to do their duty, and we may have an approach to cleanliness. The Board has already wisely ordered the draining of cess-pools, of which it is supposed there are at least 20,000 in New-York. Perhaps before the warm weather of May comes, we may be in a passable sanitary condition.

The Niagara Ship Canal.

The Niagara Ship Canal project, now under discussion in the Legislature, has the merit of magnitude. It is proposed to take vessels of 1,200 tons burden down the declivity known as the "lake ridge," which constitutes the difference of altitude between Lakes Erie and Ontario, in all about 330 feet. Whether the head of the canal is to be, as is most probable, at Tonawanda or at Schlosser, is not, we believe, decided. In either event it involves a cutting of from eight to twelve miles through a tough limestone rock on the surface, and, lower down, in the lockage, a deep stratum of what is called Medina sandstone, about as difficult a material as drill and blast-powder ever encountered. To get down the side-hill two projects have been suggested. One is the old and well-approved system of lift locks. The other is the scheme of Mr. H. H. DAY, which is a sort of immense marine railway, a ship lock on wheels, to be gently trundled down the hill, at the same time dragging another vessel up.

The expense of such a canal must be enormous, but that, after all, is not an important matter, provided that when completed it will, either directly or indirectly, by tolls or by increased commerce, reimburse the State for the money expended. We do not believe that the engineering difficulties are impracticable. The leaders of this project have studied them, know their magnitude and know very well that money can build such a canal and render it, mechanically, a success. The State of New-York is rich enough and will certainly accomplish this work whenever it is proven that the interest of the commonwealth demands it.

The first question, then, to consider, is, whether such a work, once completed, would be to our advantage with a view to close and cheap commercial relations with the great West. At present we have only one transhipment between Chicago and New-York, and that occurs either at Dunkirk *viâ* the Erie Railroad, at Buffalo *viâ* the Erie Canal, New-York Central or Erie Railroads, or at Oswego *viâ* canal or railway to New-York. The single transhipment would remain and the capacity of the railroad or canal between the lakes and the ocean would be just what it is now. The gain to our commerce would be only in the smaller number of miles to be traversed by canal. The losses we will consider a little further on.

Canal navigation depends for its success very much on its number of lockages. The Niagara Ship Canal will not lessen but will increase them, for as much as the difference of elevation is between Syracuse and Oswego—and it is very considerable—just so much is the increase of lockage by the new route. Something, therefore, is lost in lockage. Can it be made up in distance?

Whenever the proposed ship canal leaves the present routes of commerce it tends to the northward, and away from New-York. To go by way of Oswego, is roundabout. In fact, the matter of distance, at least for vessels of eight hundred tons burden, and drawing not over twelve feet of water, has been tested already by the Welland Canal. Since the enlargement of the Erie Canal, it has been found not economical to go by the Welland when the cargo is destined for New-York. To overcome this economical failure it is proposed to give the new canal a much larger tonnage capacity, which, of course, if carried far enough, would at least accomplish the purpose.

But to whose benefit would it inure? The Niagara Falls are now and have always been the great barrier diverting trade from the St. Lawrence route toward the Hudson River. From the moment that a cargo of Western products is afloat in Lake Ontario it becomes a problem whether it shall come to New-York *viâ* Oswego, to Boston *viâ* Ogdensburgh, to Portland *viâ* the Grand Trunk, or to Europe *viâ* Montreal. Once landed at Buffalo it *must* come to this City as its final American market.

If the gain in distance by the new route were sufficient to overbalance the chance that the freight might seek the St. Lawrence route, then it might still be for the good of the State that the new canal should be constructed. But there is a loss and not a gain in distance. Syracuse being the common point in any event, the new route would have considerably the longest distance to traverse, as the arc of a circle is longer than its chord. The length of the Erie Canal is 350 miles. The distance from Buffalo to Albany *viâ* the Niagara Ship Canal, Lake Ontario and Oswego, we are not able to state, but it must be nearly 450 miles. On the return, or westward voyage, the current of the Niagara River, at some points eight miles an hour, is another obstacle—one serious enough to have killed off the embryo City of Tonawanda. Thus while, as the only advantage, we secure a larger tonnage capacity from Chicago to Oswego, we gain nothing in transhipment, and lose in distance, in lockage and in the added difficulties of the navigation of the Niagara River.

Without going further, we may state the incontrovertible truth that the Niagara Ship Canal is a repetition and amplification of the Welland Canal. Each is parallel to the other; they would connect the same inland seas, and each seeks to turn the trade of the West into the same channel. The Welland was built by our competitors with the avowed and express purpose of turning the commerce of the Great West down the St. Lawrence to Montreal. To carry out this intention, the Canadian Government has repeatedly reduced the tolls, so that the canal does not now pay its own expenses. The Niagara Ship Canal would thus only divide an already unprofitable business, and become a load upon the taxpayers.

But in doing this it would help to destroy the really profitable business of the canal west of Syracuse, would equally impair the traffic of the Central and Erie Railroads, would send some part of our local commerce to Boston, Portland and Quebec, and would deprive the State of its canal revenues.

The City of New-York cannot separate its interests from those of the great routes of transportation that now feed its commerce. But this Niagara Ship Canal looks too squarely toward the mouth of the St. Lawrence to commend itself to more than a very limited number of the merchants, freighters, and taxpayers of the State. If, however, it is decided to build the canal, it will not be necessary that New-York should assume the entire cost. Massachusetts and Maine would willingly contribute large subsidies in view of the new commercial advantages to accrue to the cities of Boston and Portland.

Is Everybody Always Drunk?

A country newspaper publishes an article entitled the "Drunken Senators," and gives the names of a number of members of the Senate who, it says, are "beastly drunkards." We will not quote the names and will not discuss the truthfulness of this special statement. But we would ask, on general grounds, whether it would not be well to pause in the making of charges of this kind until the accuracy of each specific charge is definitely ascertained? We have seen statements, of late, which went so far as to charge Congress, as a whole, with being pretty steadily "drunk;" and, taking the newspapers of the various Congressional districts of the entire country, we feel sure that we would find, in the course of a year, a charge of *drunkenness* brought by one party or another against almost every member. We have had the same charge brought again and again against the most distinguished civic functionaries of the nation, and the most eminent officers of the army. Whenever any one during the war wished to injure an officer they at once brought the accusation that "he drank;" that "he was always drunk;" that "he was a beastly drunkard;" and whenever, now-a-days, there is a desire to parry the arguments or undermine the influence of any public man, the first method that seems to suggest itself is to allege that he "gets drunk," or "keeps drunk." If that miserable, but impossible, man, the "future historian," who is to read all the newspapers and gather all the gossip of the period about which he writes, believes one-half of the charges of this kind which he will find floating around, he will inevitably come to the conclusion that all the directors of our affairs were drunkards; and as the character of a people is pretty faithfully reflected in that of their public men, he will have to draw the anomalous picture of an entire generation of American sots. The people of foreign countries, who know our public men only by what is said about them in this direction, must inevitably come to the conclusion that of all the astonishing things in this astonishing country, the most astonishing is the state of total drunkenness in which they are perpetually sunk. It is not only our great politicians and generals who find themselves accused in this style, but folks of lesser note in public life, in business and in society. It seems with many people to be an all-sufficient interpretation of half of the characteristics of human nature, and half the phenomena of human life, to attribute them to "drunk."

There are various reasons why we disbelieve these accusations about our public men and others, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred. They are justified, in extremely few cases, by our knowledge of the personal habits of those of our public men with whom we have had acquaintance. We know one eminent civil functionary who has been a hundred times charged with habits of drunkenness in newspapers which disagree with his political principles, and yet who has never, in his whole life, been known by his own family to have been under the influence of liquor, and moreover who was never seen under its influence by any of those who have circulated the charge. We know of a military officer of strict habits of temperance, who is supposed by a large part of the people to be almost always under the influence of Bourbon. We know members of Congress who have followed habits of temperance all their lives, and yet who rest under this imputation. We have knowledge of not merely one or two such cases, but of scores. Then, again, the amount and the order of actual work that is put through by our public men would preclude the possibility of our belief in their general drunkenness, or anything like it. "Keeping drunk" or "getting drunk" often, very soon destroys the intellectual as well as the physical nature; and as our generals have succeeded in carrying on and carrying out a very elaborate and comprehensive system of strategy, involving habitual clear-headedness and perpetual watchfulness, the presumption would be that it could hardly be possible that they were either always or often drunk. As our statesmen and civic functionaries have had on hand the most weighty and intricate matters of diplomacy and policy, it would be difficult to conceive that they carried them all though as successfully as they have done while in a condition of intoxication. But it may seem absurd to reason seriously about such a question, and in fact, it is only less absurd than the charges which find such extensive credence.

These accusations, by being so common, defeat their own purpose to some extent. Every one knows instances in which they are falsely made, and is likely, in consequence, to suspect that they are very frequently false in cases beyond his personal knowledge.

The American people unquestionably drink far too much intoxicating liquor; but, after all, the proportion of those who have habits of drunkenness is very small. Let any respectable man call the roll of his acquaintance, and we venture to say that he will be likely to find the number inordinately addicted to liquor to be smaller than the number controlled by almost any one of the other vices.

Neutrality Laws—Case of the Meteor.

The questions of the duties of neutral nations and of the requirements of a neutrality law for efficiency, seem likely to receive a new discussion throughout our community, in which we shall look at them from a very different point of view from that which we have occupied during the years of the rebellion.

Then we were earnest to have such neutrality maintained to the fullest extent. We criticised the position which England occupied; we watched with a jealous eye the proceedings of her officials; we magnified the evils which were to result from a failure to enforce her neutrality laws, and we made light of the difficulties which her law officers found in carrying those laws into execution. Possibly, we were just in our criticism, and had good reason to find all the fault which we did with her action; but it is not to be denied that it was the inevitable tendency of the position in which we were placed to lead us to be more exacting in our requirements and less charitable in our judgments than we should have been.

Now the case is altered with us. We occupy now the position which we criticised before. It remains to be seen whether we shall fulfill the requirements of that position more honestly, whether our laws are better or our officers more active, or our public sentiment more healthy than that which we found so much fault with.

The case of the steamer *Meteor*, seized as being intended to go as a privateer in the Chilian service against Spain, is the first one in which we are brought to the test. And thus far it certainly appears that even an unfriendly eye can detect nothing inconsistent with the claims of neutrality. The vessel was promptly seized by our officers, and judicial proceedings commenced, which have thus far succeeded in postponing her departure upon her illegal errand, if such she had.

The motion to the Court to allow the vessel to be discharged from custody on giving the usual bond for her value, which was argued a day or two since, is the first positive effort which has been made to release her from the arrest. Certainly no stickler for neutrality can find any fault with the position of our Government on this point. The question was fought by the United States Attorney with all the energy that could be required, and the letter from the State Department to him, in reference to it, showed that the Department is earnest in its purposes to maintain all our obligations.

The District-Attorney, in his argument against the bonding, urged—and we see that similar ground was taken by a cotemporary, in commenting on the matter—that the result of granting the application would be to allow the vessel at once to go forth upon a privateering cruise, in violation of our duties as a neutral. We do not see that this is a necessary result. If the vessel was bonded, and another attempt was made to send her to sea upon the same enterprise, another seizure of her would be entirely proper. The offence with which she has been charged was complete before her former arrest, if it has been committed at all. If she should be bonded, and should then renew her undertaking, that would be another offence. Such was the course which was taken in the case of the bark *Augusta*, seized for being fitted out to engage in the slave-trade, which was doubtless the one referred to by the counsel for the claimants in his argument. Her owners gave bonds for her, and procured her discharge from arrest, and then undertook again to send her to sea, without altering her outfit or changing any of the circumstances which formed the evidence on which her arrest was founded. The result was that she was seized a second time, and was then sold by order of the Court, her owners despairing of being able to get her to sea on any such undertaking. Their enterprise was thus entirely broken up, and both suits resulted in decrees in favor of the Government against the vessel, which was thus twice forfeited.

If then the Court should allow the *Meteor* to be bonded, that would be no ground for complaint. It would then be a question of astuteness and energy on the part of our officials again, and now that their attention has been fully called to the case, she could hardly expect to get off in any way upon the same enterprise.

The matter of bonding the vessel, however, is one not necessarily determining anything. When the trial of the case comes on, the parallel between it and the case of the *Alexandra*, for instance, will be instructive and interesting. There will, however, be one respect in which we shall have a decided advantage in endeavoring to arrive at a fair and unbiassed decision. The English cases were all tried before a jury, and in every case the jury was found to be affected by the tone of public sentiment, as juries will always be. Our cases being tried before our Courts of Admiralty, in which there is no jury, will be apt to be more free from that inevitable bias.

THE RETAIL BUSINESS.—We advise retail purchasers of all sorts of goods and commodities to keep an eye on the recent course of the wholesale markets, and see to it that it is not altogether ignored by the general traders. There has not been a corresponding decline in the retail business with that in the wholesale; and as in the latter the fall is now quite sure to be steady and continuous, retailers have no excuse for not graduating their prices accordingly. The decline applies to groceries, the product of foreign countries, to cured meats, and to numerous articles of daily consumption.

MEXICAN NEWS.

Gen. Ortega on a Mission to Washington—Matamoras Again to be Attacked—Reported Defeat of Imperialists.

NEW-ORLEANS, Friday, March 16.

Advices from Brownsville say that Gen. ORTEGA has gone to Washington to have a consultation on Mexican affairs.

CORTINAS has been reinforced by 900 men, and is said to be marching on Matamoras.

Six thousand Imperialists are also reported to be marching in separate columns toward Matamoras, with the intention of making a simultaneous attack on the Liberals there from various points.

Reliable Tampico advices to the 10th inst. say that a a battle had taken place near there between some French and Liberal guerrillas, wherein the French were defeated, losing forty men. Tampico was garrisoned by 100 Imperialists, but the town was cut off from communication with the surrounding country by guerrillas, and business was entirely prostrated.

Brownsville dates of the 9th inst. say that a vessel from the United States, with arms for the Liberals, was captured on the coast of Tamaulipas by a French war vessel, and taken to Beera.

Outrages continue in and near Brownsville.

The Bagdad fillibusters have been released by Gen. GETTY.

A great many deserters from the Imperial Army were crossing the Rio Grande daily.

Gen. NEGRETE and suite, and a number of Liberal officers are still at Brownsville.

Col. CANALES was about fifty miles from Matamoras, on the Montery road. He had been appointed Governor of Tamaulipas by President JUAREZ.

GREAT FIRE IN BUFFALO.

The Freight Depot and Elevator of the New-York Central Railroad Entirely Destroyed—Loss over a Million of Dollars.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Saturday, March 17.

A fire broke out in the New-York Central Railroad freight depot, an immense building, at 6 o'clock this morning, caused by a watchman upsetting a can of kerosene oil near the stove.

The flames spread rapidly and communicated to the splendid elevator belonging to the same Company.

Both buildings were entirely destroyed.

There was a large number of loaded cars in the depot and piles of freight awaiting shipment. All was destroyed.

There was about 400,000 bushels of grain in the elevator, little or none of which was saved. The grain was insured.

The loss on the elevator, depot and freight cannot now be correctly stated, but it is estimated at over a million of dollars.

This loss will fall on the Company, which insures itself.

The *Commercial Advertiser* publishes a list of the amounts of insurance on property lost by the Central Railroad fire this morning, as follows:

Western Insurance Co., of Buffalo	$12,000
Connecticut Insurance Co. of Hartford	4,000
City Insurance Co. of Hartford	4,000
Liverpool and London Insurance Co.	20,000
Commerce Insurance Co. of Albany	10,000
International Insurance Co. of New-York	13,000
Hanover Insurance Co. of New-York	5,000
Germania Insurance Co.	5,000
Phœnix Insurance Co. of Hartford	10,000
Resolute Insurance Co. of New-York	4,000
North American Insurance Co. of New-York	4,000
Hartford Insurance Co.	1,000
Home Insurance Co. of New-York	20,000
Ins. Co. of North America of Philadelphia	7,500
Harmony Insurance Co. of New-York	7,500
Adriatic Insurance Co. of New-York	5,000
Thames Insurance Co. of Norwich, Conn.	5,000
Ætna, of Hartford	17,000
Home, of New Haven	10,000
Hope, of Providence, R. I.	5,000
Phœnix, of Brooklyn	25,000
Republic, of New-York	10,000
Niagara, of New York	18,000
Manhattan, of New York	25,000
Irving, of New York	1,000
Security, of New-York	18,000
Exchange, of New-York	3,200
Buffalo, of Montreal	4,500
Excelsior	5,000
Columbia	10,000
Total	$288,700

CONNECTICUT.

The Political Canvass—Speech at Brigdeport by Senator Sherman, of Ohio.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Saturday, March 17.

Senator SHERMAN, of Ohio, addressed a very enthusiastic Union meeting at Franklin Hall this evening. His speech, which was very able, consisted first of a scathing review of the history of the Democratic Party during the continuance of the war, which he contended should alone, and without reference to present issues, afford sufficient reasons why the American people should refuse to sustain that party; and second, of a clear statement of the present differences between Congress and the Executive in regard to reconstruction, which he argued were merely differences of opinion as to the best means to be employed, and not at all as to the great end to be attained.

NEW-BRUNSWICK.

The Government Apprehensive of Fenian Troubles.

ST. JOHN, N. B., Saturday, March 17.

Gov. GORDON yesterday sent a message to the New-Brunswick Legislature, in which he said that although the American Government had given satisfactory assurances that its agents would permit no raiding parties to cross into the Provinces, yet their vigilance might be eluded, therefore some portion of the Provincial Militia should be called out to protect the Province from insult. Money would be required to support the necessary force. The House of Assembly passed unanimously a resolution in reply to the message, placing the whole revenue of the Province at the disposal of the Government for purposes of defence.

All military stations, warehouses, &c., in St. John, are guarded by regular troops and volunteers.

FROM NEW-ORLEANS.

Railroad Contract Concluded—Payment of Interest.

The Southern Pacific Railroad Directors have concluded a contract with a French company to extend the roads west of Marshall, Texas. The President has also concluded arrangements to complete the connections between Shreveport and Marshall, in time to ship the present cotton crop.

NEW ORLEANS, Saturday, March 17.

The *Times* positively asserts that Mayor MONROE will be inaugurated on Monday, notwithstanding the statements to the contrary. The military will not interfere in the matter.

The Legislature has taken measures to provide for the accrued interest and that to accrue on State bonds. The value of the bonds has doubled here.

A quarantine has been established at Mobile on vessels from the West Indies.

An Attempt to Rob a Bank.

ALBANY, Saturday, March 17.

An attempt was made last night to rob the bank at Schuylerville by three men, who broke into the vault, but were alarmed before getting into the safe. They left some tools and photographs taken in Baltimore. They arrived in the village on Friday morning, and went away in the cars, leaving a span of horses. A reward of $500 is offered for their arrest.

Seizure of Whisky.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Saturday, March 17.

The Collector has seized several barrels of whisky, because of counterfeit brands thereon.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

Customary Street Parade in New-York and Brooklyn.

Total Absence of Fenians and Fenian Emblems.

A Perfectly Quiet and Orderly Celebration.

Pontifical High Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral.

The Traditional Storm Turns Out to be a Snow Squall.

How the Day was Observed in North America.

Advices from St. John's to San Francisco, and from Washington to Ottawa.

Not the Least Sign of the Fenian Conquest of Great Britain.

Peace and Loyalty Everywhere Triumphant.

Contemptible Fizzle of the O'Mahonys and the Sweeneys.

Chief Executives and Head Centres Find Their Occupation Gone.

St. Patrick has his day, and yesterday with all the pomp of parade and ceremony of display it was celebrated here and hereabouts. So far as we are informed the real original Patrick was a very different personage from the one of whom the orators of to-day tell us. He was born in Scotland in the year of our Lord 372, and went to the Green Isle, not because he wanted to, but because he had to, for it seems that a band of marauders captured him when he was some 16 years of age, and carried him along with other booty to the unhappy island where he beheld so much misery, so much want and wickedness, not to say so many snakes, that he determined in after years to go there as a missionary that he might convert the people from Heathenism to Christianity, and expel all the serpents by the power of his word. He did both, so say the legends, and its all owing to his miraculous wisdom and power that Ireland to-day has so much religion and so few snakes. Although the Irish people have a Scotchman for their Patron Saint they are very fond of him, and although their most intimate knowledge of his life and habits consists in a very meagre appreciation of the many somewhat doubtful legends that are told about him, they certainly do their best and utmost every year to make his day, the 17th of March, notable among the 365 that compose the year. Generally they content themselves in this City with early uprisings, green sprigs, whisky in abundance, green aprons, processions in the streets, green banners, brass bands playing the "Lakes of Killarney," green gloves, green flags, jollifications private and public, and a general avouchment of eternal devotion to the little Green Island, the "Gim of the Say." This year we were promised great and daring deeds, not to say green deeds. Canada was to be taken, the people at home were to rise *en masse*, the corner stone of Irish liberty was to be put in place, a tremendous row-de-dow was to be kicked up in Victoria's kingdom, and the proud boast of a bloated aristocracy was to be proven balderdash.

None of these things have as yet come to our ears, and we await patiently the arrival which is to bring the interesting intelligence.

Yesterday was a grand, a beautiful day. Nature surpassed herself, smiling in unwonted beauty upon the thousands of rollicking boys and ruddy cheeked girls, who thrust the cares of labor from their minds and thronged the streets in search of fellow-countrymen and fun. An Irishman never forgets his nationality. Unlike the Germans, the French, the Spanish, in fact, every other foreign element of our population, he insists upon carrying the flags of a double nationality, and never merges the memory of the past with the reality of the present. He is always an Irishman, except on election day, when he is the fullest kind of a full-blooded American, and sometimes discharges the duty of half a dozen American citizens by voting early and voting often. The faults and virtues alike of this peculiar race are prominent and noticeable. The Irishman's virtues are quite pleasant, but his faults are excessively disagreeable. He is fond of celebrations, but of all celebrations the anniversary of Saint Patrick, the Scottish patron of Ireland, is to him the most enjoyable. Ordinarily it rains on that festive occasion, and the streets are only crowded; yesterday the sun shone and the streets were impassable. Packed like sardines in a box stood the men and women, from Fulton-street to Union-square; squeezed tighter than ever lemons were, they shouted, and hurrahed, and laughed, and joked along the procession's route; happy in a serene contemplation of the immediate dissolution of the British Government, they gazed lovingly at the green flag over O'MAHONY'S pleasant home, and with cheer after cheer saluted it as the emblem of a new and glorious member of the family of nations.

The Procession.

Ten in the morning was the hour indicated for the forming of the column in East Broadway, and the line of march was to be taken up on the firing of signal guns at the intersection of East Broadway and Grand-street, at noon precisely. Accordingly, multitudes of men, women and children gathered on the sidewalks of Chatham-street and East Broadway and Grand-street, and on the esplanade in the City Hall Park at about 10 o'clock; and they waited patiently until they had become wedged into an impenetrable mass, and then, when at length the procession did move, they were compelled to retain the choice places which they had selected; for they could not move either backward or forward. At noon expectation stood on tiptoe as usual, and there was much riding to and fro by mounted dignitaries in cocked hats; but there was no column to march. Here and there a society stood at ease in East Broadway and on the lateral streets, and in Grand-street, from East Broadway to the Bowery, the line of military was unbroken; but it was quite 1 o'clock in the afternoon before the Grand Marshal was ready to order the signal salute.

The signal gun was discharged in the Park as the Hall clock marked the hour of one; and at that hour the Mayor, who appeared with a bunch of shamrocks on his breast, and Common Council, who had already distinguished themselves in the estimation of their fellow-citizens of Irish birth, stepped forth from the Hall and took position. The column now began to move, entering the East gate of the Park.

It is unnecessary to describe the procession. The banners, the marshals, the uniforms and badges, were of the regular style, and there were but few devices or mottoes that varied from the regular stereotyped form.

The left of the column left the City Hall Park at 3 o'clock, the procession, in which there were, at a rough estimate, twenty-five thousand men, having consumed two hours in passing the City Hall.

The Fenian Brotherhood.

President JOHN O'MAHONY was expected to ride in advance of the Ninety-ninth Regiment, of which body he is Colonel; but in the morning he visited his comrades at their armory and begged them to excuse him, as pressing business, requiring his personal attention at the executive mansion in Seventeenth-street, forbade him the pleasure of participating in the ceremonies of the day. He doubted not that Lieut.-Col. P. T. DOHENY would fill his place acceptably, and he therefore consigned his command, with his best wishes, to his subordinate officer.

The wiseacres had prognosticated a serious conflict in the event of any manifestation by the Fenian Brotherhood, and they had understood to say that a body of more than twenty thousand Fenians were to march in the column as Fenians distinctively. Hence the public were much disappointed in not seeing the formidable army of the O'MAHONY and bearing of a riot. Fenians there undoubtedly were to the number of many thousands, both in and out of the procession; but from the extreme right to the extreme left there was not a badge, not a banner, nothing to indicate the existence of the Fenian Order. The Ocean Steamship Coal-heavers' Society, about two hundred strong, uniformed in blue flannel and wearing badges representing a full-rigged ship, were mistaken for the Fenian Navy; but their banner dispelled the illusion. A wag who was told that fifty-two marshals and aids in the procession wore green hats which cost $50 apiece, remarked that probably Head Centre O'MAHONY had been as good as his word and mobilized the Fenian funds; but of course so base a calumny was immediately rebuked by the bystanders.

Subsequent to the dismissal of the procession, a vast concourse of Fenians gathered in Union-square, in front of Col. O'MAHONY'S office, and were addressed by Rev. Messrs. GALLAHER and SHEPPARD, Messrs. JOHN O'MAHONY, B. DORAN KILLIAN and Rev. Mr. DOLCHTER. Father Mathew Temperance Society made Col. O'MAHONY a present of $917, and many genuine bonds of the O'Mahony Republic were purchased.

The Moffat mansion was elaborately decorated with evergreens and a handsome array of American and Irish flags, and at the windows the following significant mottoes were displayed:

American Soldiers
In English Prisons.

Sailors' Rights—
Barry, McDonough, Perry, Sullivan.

Broken Reeds:
The English Army and Constabulary.

Neutral Rights;
Two Sides to the Question.

We Celebrate the National Patron's Day of a "Proclaimed" Country.

The Streets.

The thoroughfares through which the column moved on its five-mile march were everywhere decorated, but not profusely, with American and Irish flags, and the sidewalks nearly everywhere were lined by admiring spectators—men and women who, though perhaps not all of the birth and faith of the Societies that were passing before them, were yet Americans who were glad to see so great a pageant so sensibly managed by adopted citizens who are of a proverbially impulsive race—glad to see the folly of Fenianism not indorsed by a solitary body composing the great procession—glad that "the drowning of the shamrock" was not commenced early in the day, and glad above all things else to see that so many of those who participated in the demonstration were manifestly men who live by their honest labor and labor honestly to give their children food and raiment and rear them to lives of usefulness. The windows and doorways all along the line of march were alive with spectators of another class—spectators to whom, whenever they exhibited the Irish colors, the Society man tipped their hats with profound admiration. These were the women and children. In many windows the flag of stars and the flag of the harp were entwined, and nearly everywhere the children displayed the green in profusion. Of course traffic ceased in East Broadway, Chatham-street, Broadway, Fourteenth-street, Eighth-avenue, Twenty-third-street, First-avenue and Eighth-street, during the two hours which the column consumed in passing a given point, and everybody gave the pageant his undivided attention. The shamrock was not so generally worn as on former celebrations of the day.

High Mass at the Cathedral.

At 10:30 o'clock in the morning St. Patrick's Cathedral, in Mott-street, was filled to overflowing by a multitude, which was composed mainly of women, who had been called to witness the imposing ceremonies of a Pontifical High Mass. On the high altar were seated the Most Reverend Archbishop MCCLOSKEY; Bishop LYNCH, of Charleston; the Very Reverend Father STARRS, V. G.; the Reverend Fathers MAGUIRE, MCNIERNEY, MCGRAN, and other dignitaries of the Church. Archbishop MCCLOSKEY offered the Pontifical Mass, Father STARRS officiating as Assistant Priest, with the Reverend Fathers MAGUIRE and MCGRAN as Deacons and the Reverend Father MCNIERNEY as Master of Ceremonies.

After Mass, Bishop LYNCH, of Charleston, ascended the pulpit, and, having read a selection from the fourth chapter of Ecclesiastes, pronounced an eloquent panygeric upon the Saint in whose memory the day was celebrated. The day was honored, he said, by Catholics throughout the world, by religious services, social reunions, and public pageants. He then sketched the life of Saint Patricius Patrick, dwelling at some length upon his labors as when, at the age of fifty years, he entered Ireland as a missionary; upon his wonderful success in disseminating the Word, and upon his baptizing kings and princes, and converting their subjects to the faith. The speaker closed by declaring the Saint a greater than a mere conqueror, as his work shall live for ever and ever.

In the Church of the Immaculate

all reverentially lifted their hats in respect to the reverend gentlemen.

On reaching the City Hall the procession entered the west gate of the Park and passed in review before the Mayor and Common Council, who were standing in an elevated position. In passing out of the east gate, the horses of the marshals hesitated before leaping down the stone steps upon the sidewalk, and some little confusion was created in consequence.

On leaving the City Hall (about 2 o'clock) the line of march was continued, and on reaching Myrtle-avenue, on the return, numbers, tired of the tramp, left the ranks. A snow squall was then at its height, and the boys particularly were benumbed with cold.

It was designed to dismiss the column at the City Hall, where they were—according to the original programme—to have passed in review before the Chief Marshal, but, before reaching the point of the Park, some companies had left, and others, following their example, each society repaired to their own headquarters by different routes.

The procession was a very fine one in every respect. The banners were tasteful and appropriately inscribed. The men were as nearly uniformly dressed as could be expected, of civilians; and the boys, all neatly uniformed, made a highly creditable appearance. Each of these juvenile companies was preceded by a drum corps of their own number.

One distinguishing feature was a large harp, borne by the Laborers' Union. It was three feet in height, and surmounted by a liberty cap of green.

In consequence of the high wind during the latter part of the afternoon, the banners were folded up to prevent them from being torn into shreds.

Everything connected with the display passed off satisfactorily.

The numbers in line were variously estimated at from 30,000 to 50,000. Thousands of spectators lined the sidewalks wherever the procession passed.

ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY OF BROOKLYN.

The annual dinner of the St. Patrick's Society of Brooklyn was given at Gothic Hall, in Adams-street, last night, and, as on similar occasions, was well attended. The room was handsomely decorated with American flags and the Irish Green, the figure of a harp being placed at the head of the room. There were three long tables, at which one hundred and fifty guests were accommodated with everything requisite for the enjoyment of a hearty meal. The President, RICHARD TERNAN, Esq., presided, and among the distinguished guests were the Rev. Fathers KEEGAN and MAHER, and Judge LOTT, of the Court of Appeals. The principal toasts were: "The day we celebrate," responded to by Rev. Father KEEGAN; "Ireland," by THOS. KINSELLA, Esq., editor of the *Brooklyn Eagle*; "The United States of America," by WM. E. ROBINSON, Esq. Toasts to the Ladies, the Press, &c., were drank and responded to by various persons. The music was furnished by Gruhla's Band. In consequence of the Sabbath, the proceedings were terminated before midnight.

St. Patrick's in Jersey City.

It was arranged that the Irish Benevolent Societies of Jersey City, Hoboken, Hudson City and Bergen should unite in a grand demonstration in Jersey City; accordingly the City was appropriately decorated, and at 10 A. M. a procession was formed.

After marching through Montgomery, Grove, and other streets, the Societies were reviewed by the Mayor and Common Council, at the City Hall. Subsequently the column paraded in Hoboken and Hudson City.

In the evening the Sweeney branch of the Fenian Brotherhood held a meeting in Cooper Hall, and formed a new circle, styled the "General Sweeney Circle."

DISORDERLY FENIAN MEETING IN JERSEY CITY—ATTEMPT TO FORM A SWEENEY CIRCLE.—A public meeting of the Irish Republicans was held at Cooper Hall, Jersey City, last night, for the purpose of forming a Gen. SWEENEY circle. The room was filled principally by the followers of the O'MAHONY party, and the proceedings for nearly three hours were of the most turbulent and exciting nature. Capt. J. W. BOYCE was the first speaker, and although frequently interrupted with questions, managed to get through with a short speech tolerably well, when he introduced Mr. D. O'SULLIVAN, Secretary of Civil Affairs, who was received with groans and hisses by the O'MAHONY party, who cheered O'MAHONY and STEPHENS, and a general tumult followed, during which the police attempted to eject one or two disorderly persons, but were finally compelled to call in a considerable reinforcement before they succeeded. Mr. O'SULLIVAN then attempted to proceed, but during two and a half hours was constantly interrupted, sometimes six or eight persons speaking at a time, and the police occasionally ejecting some of the more disorderly. Finally, the public meeting adjourned, and those favorable to the Sweeny party remained to organize a circle. In the early part of the evening a number of women were present, but when a general free fight seemed inevitable, they managed to escape from the room.

ST. PATRICK'S ELSEWHERE.

Everything Quiet Throughout Canada and the United States.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

OTTAWA, Canada, Saturday, March 17.

All has been quiet here to-day. There was no procession, the leading Irishmen having decided to substitute a banquet. We cannot hear of the least disturbance in any quarter. Much satisfaction is expressed in high quarters at the good faith of the United States Government.

MONTREAL, Saturday, March 17.

This was a great day in Montreal. The Irish population turned out *en masse*, filling Great St. James-street for several squares east and west of St. Lawrence Hall.

The procession halted to pay their respects to His Excellency. Several National and loyal tunes were played when His Excellency appeared at one of the windows of the hotel. This was the signal for tremendous cheering.

His Excellency spoke as follows:

"As the representative of your sovereign, I thank you for this exhibition of loyalty paid to me. I have every reason to believe that the sentiments of my fellow countrymen in Canada toward myself are of a kindly description. [Cheers.] But, gentlemen, I do not treat this as a manifestation personal to any mark of personal respect to myself. I accept this demonstration as an evidence on your part of loyalty to your sovereign—[enthusiastic cheers]—of attachment to the institutions of our land, and as a protest on your part against the principles of wicked men who would disgrace the name of Irishmen (cheers) and desecrate the birth-day of her patron saint by a wanton attack on a peaceful, prosperous and happy country. [Loud cheers.] Gentlemen, the manner in which you have received these few observations convinces me that I do not misinterpret your feelings. As I accept your presence here to-day as evidence of the existence of these sentiments among you, so I consider the position which the President of the St. Patrick's Society holds as the commander of one of the finest volunteer battalions in our country [enthusiastic cheers] proof that you will give to these principles no mere lip service, but that you will be ready, if the necessity should arise, which God forbid, to back your principles by your stout right arms. [Enthusiastic cheers.]

The procession then moved to the Haymarket, where the vast assemblage was addressed by Hon. THOMAS DARCY MCGEE, Maj. STARNES, and the Presidents of the several Irish Societies.

The speeches were national and loyal, and from the manner in which the speakers were received there is no doubt as to the loyalty of the Irishmen of Montreal, or that they will not be foremost in the ranks to resist any invaders, come from whatever quarter they may.

TORONTO, C. W., Saturday, March 17.

St. Patrick's Day passed off here without any disturbance.

The Hibernians walked in procession, and they made some attempt to cheer O'MAHONY. But little attention was paid to them.

BOSTON, Saturday, March 17.

The celebration of St. Patrick's day in this city was quiet and orderly. The procession embraced several volunteer military companies, the various Irish Benevolent Associations, and the Knights of St. Patrick. The latter were mounted on white horses.

The Fenians did not turn out in a body.

BURLINGTON, Vt., Saturday, March 17.

The Fenian demonstration here to-day fell far below general expectation in point of numbers, the procession not exceeding three hundred men.

A feature of the procession was thirty-two handsome Irish maidens in carriages, representing the thirty-two counties of Ireland. They were all attired in the national costume.

It is underrtood that the absence of a number of Fenian Circles from the procession was owing to the stern opposition of Bishop DE GOESBRIAND and the Catholic clergy of this Diocese to the demonstration.

PHILADELHHIA, Saturday, March 17.

No general demonstration was made by the Fenians, in this city to-day, but the enthusiasm among them was kept alive until midnight.

Gen. B. F. MULLEN was honored with a serenade at the Girard House.

A flag presentation took place at the National Guards' Hall, and in the evening Rev. Dr. MORIARTY delivered an address at the Academy of Music, before an immense audience, on "Ireland—The Apostle, the Nation and the Faith." Intense enthusiasm was created by his remarks on Irish nationality.

The grand series of public meetings called by District Centre ANDREW WYNNE, for the ensuing week, in all parts of the city, engrosses the attention of the Fenians.

A large number of Fenians assembled at Fenians' Hall to-night. Mr. JOHN P. O'NEIL made an eloquent address on the "Irish Apostle and the hopes of the Irish People."

WASHINGTON, Saturday, March 17.

There has been no public demonstration here to-day in honor of Ireland's patron saint, but services appropriate to the occasion were held in all the Roman Catholic churches of the city.

The weather throughout the day has been clear, cold and windy.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Saturday, March 17.

The Fenians and Sons of Erin, with delegations from the neighboring cities, paraded through the principal streets to-day.

They were addressed at the Court-house and had a banquet this evening.

The procession was large and imposing.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Saturday, March 17.

St. Patrick's Day was not celebrated here on account of the state of affairs in Ireland.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Saturday, March 17.

St. Patrick's Day was celebrated here by a large procession.

Bishop GRACE and Governor MARSHALL both made speeches strongly denouncing the Fenians and warning the Irish people against them.

TITUSVILLE, Pa., Saturday, March 17.

St. Patrick's Day was celebrated in splendid style in this place.

The procession was the largest ever witnessed here, and the numbers were swelled by delegations from the neighboring towns. A portion of the Fire Department and a number of civic societies also participated in the demonstration.

The procession was fifteen minutes passing the office of the *Morning Herald*, on reaching the Catholic Cathedral, where high mass was celebrated.

A lecture was delivered in the Cathedral that evening by the Rev. Father HUGHAZE, on "Ireland and the Irish."

The celebration concludes to-night with a grand banquet in Corinthian Hall, to which the city authorities are invited.

SAN FRANCISCO, Saturday, March 17.

St. Patrick's Day was celebrated by a grand military and civic procession and an oration.

Postponement of the Grand Review at Montreal—The Court-Martial Story—The Severe Drain on the Savings Banks—Cost of the Volunteer Forces.

From Our Special Correspondent.

MONTREAL, Wednesday, March 15, 1866.

The grand review which was to have taken place yesterday was postponed, owing to the weather, which is most disagreeably suggestive of an unholy alliance of Scotch mist and that elixir of comfort known to travelers as "Connecticut honey." About five thousand volunteers were drilled at the several armories throughout the city early in the afternoon, and some of these afterward marched to the Champde-Mars, where they were dismissed.

The Prince of Wales Regiment, commanded by Lieut. Col. Devlin, and mainly composed of Irishmen, was conspicuous in the soldiery bearing of the men as in the matter of physique. This is the regiment which for some time has been the object of disagreeable comment, culminating in a statement that they had avowedly refused to serve in the event of an invasion by Irishmen. The matter is taken up this morning by the Montreal *Herald*, and the entire absence of foundation for the charge of disloyalty exposed. It calls for prompt prohibition of such malicious and dangerous slanders.

The story about the court-martial of which I wrote you yesterday is, I have learned, in part only true. It appears that two or three days ago a volunteer, on his way home from drill, which is a thirsty business on a dusty floor, dropped in with a comrade for a lubricating mouthful, at a liquor store. Unhappily, he had the prevailing weakness to over-do it, and rendered himself so slippery, morally and physically, that he gave expression to some unwholesome things suggested by his memories of ould Ireland in her faded glory.

His eloquence, had he confined himself thereto, might have escaped attention, but his after performance could hardly fail to attract the notice of those who did not sympathize, as he did, with the "wrongs of Ireland." Having worked himself up to the point where words cease to be vehicles capacious enough to convey enthusiastic feeling, he threw down his haversack and made frequent unsuccessful efforts, it is said, "to kick the Devil out of it," vociferously call ing upon any number of the defenders of the British property. His request was acceded to with the accustomed readiness in such cases, both him and his haversack being taken charge of by the Police. He will no doubt be tried and probably severely punished, but the matter rests at present with his confinement.

There are as many such stories of dissipation as would afford matter, *ad libitum*, for "sensation," but having no market for the article, or taste for the manufacture, I reject the extremely raw material.

Montreal journals, prudently desirous no doubt to avoid the ventilation of everything tending to excite internal dissension, are remarkably reticent of all such tales as these, as indeed they are of much which is freely spoken of as occurring in the city, and especially so on the subject of the immediate or prospective official movements of every kind. Your correspondent may, therefore, occasionally write you hat which may lack the corroboration of the press here, but shall invariably exercise such caution in the selection of the news he communicates as to give it fair claim to credibility.

The drain upon the savings banks has been quite important, but I have not yet been able to ascertain the amounts withdawn. An idea of the importance of the run may be formed by the fact that depositors residing full fifty miles from Montreal have been arriving in hot haste during the past four days, to secure their "little all" from seizure by the Fenians.

The other banks are not without their trouble either, and have limited to a fraction their line of discounts, beside which they refuse, I am told, to make any advances whatever on collaterals, however good or by whomsoever offered. Warehouse receipts, once the most available securities, are no longer valuable in this direction.

I learn that the increase of the volunteer force to 25,000 men is highly probable, and in addition to this the immediate arming of a home-guard of 10,000 more.

The volunteers now organized cost $50,000 per day. The outfit of each man (exclusive of arms and ammunition supplied by the British Government) may be fairly estimated at $20. We have, therefore, since Thursday last, when the men came first under pay, a colonial expenditure of $550,000 in gold—a sum sufficiently large to set those of our neighbors who have a weakness for arithmetic to calculations whose results are wofully suggestive of a burdensome taxation. These are the conclusions of exercises in the primary rules, but what if they venture at geometrical progression?

I frequently meet very ill-tempered people indeed, who are unable to understand why our Government don't swallow up the Fenian organization at an angry mouthful, without salt, and I am called to explain the reasons for such extraordinary abstinence. When they draw it mild enough to be replied to good-humoredly, I suggest a quickening sense of the importance of lenten edicts and observances, but more frequently, I regret to say, my patience withers up, and I take the liberty of reminding my inquisitors that I am only a "correspondent" and not, as a necessity of my modest "place," expected to defend every politician in the States from President JOHNSON down to THAD DEUS STEVENS.

Rumors of arrests of respectable gentlemen throughout the city, charged with Feninism, are prevalent, but I cannot trace them to any reliable source; and I have so little reason to believe that there is any truth whatever in them that I don't presume upon your space with the details.

Revolvers and bowie knives are at a premium, as there are now but few unsold remaining in the city. Revolvers worth $16 greenbacks in the States have sold here during the past three days for $22 in gold. There are very few men now who do not carry arms of some kind.

As yet there is no prohibition of the proposed procession on St. Patrick's Day, but it is whispered that it permitted by the Government, it will be interfered with by the opposing faction. If so, it is not difficult to foresee trouble and the probability of bloodshed.

To-morrow evening and night the entire force, it is said, of both regulars and volunteers, will be under arms, sleeping, if they sleep at all, in their belonging. One ounce of precaution is worth a pound of cure. What a pity it is that either is so expensive!

FIDES.

THE RECONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE.

Correspondence Between Senator Graham, of North Carolina, and Senator Fessenden, of Maine.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, March 17.

Hon. WM. A. GRAHAM, United States Senator elect from North Carolina, publishes a statement from which it appears that in January he addressed a letter to Senator FESSENDEN, suggesting that it would be but justice to permit the delegation elected from each State to be present at the reception of all evidence touching the State or any of its members before the Committee on Reconstruction, with the privilege of cross-examining witnesses and of introducing counter evidence if they shall deem it proper.

To this letter Mr. FESSENDEN replied as follows:

"It is not customary to allow a cross-examination of witnesses before a Committee appointed to report on a subject not involving individuals. The Committee is supposed to be desirous of ascertaining the truth, and capable of making all the examination necessary.

The Committee is quite willing, however, to examine any witnesses who may be produced having knowledge of the subject matter to any reasonable extent.

The credentials of gentlemen claiming to be Senators have not been referred to this Committee, and there is no probability that they will be."

Mr. GRAHAM subsequently replied as follows:

"My sole purpose is to aid the Committee so far as this State (North Carolina) is concerned in the ascertaining of truth, and to guard against *ex-parte* testimony from unknown or irresponsible sources.

If, therefore, the Committee will at any time furnish notice of the points on which evidence is desired, or of prejudicial testimony which it is necessary to meet, my colleagues and myself will gladly avail ourselves of its permission to offer such relevant proof as may be in our power."

FORTRESS MONROE.

Card from Mr. Charles Butts—Wonderful Mirage.

FORTRESS MONROE, Thursday, March 15.

Mr. CHARLES BUTTS, of Norfolk, comes out to day in a card to the Norfolk papers, denying the truth of the statement made in a telegraphic dispatch to the New York papers, that he fled on the approach of the assailants of Mr. FLINT, an associate editor of the *Old Dominion*, published in Norfolk, and says that he has never had any connection with that paper.

A wonderful mirage occurred here this afternoon, lasting for half an hour. The eastern shore of Virginia, Cape Henry light, &c., were plainly visible to the naked eye, while the country bordering on the James and Nansemond Rivers, and Newport News, appeared to recede away off in the distance.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatches to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, March 17.

FORTS DISMANTLED.

The dismantling of Forts Carroll, Stanton, Baker, Mahan, Lincoln, Totten, Slocum, Stevens, Reno and Sumner, north of the Potomac, reduces the defences of Washington to a peace footing, and leaves of them only the powerful water battery, on the Maryland shore, above Fort Foote, which is armed with the heaviest and most improved artillery, and commands the Potomac River for miles below and above. The formidable battery on the Virginia shore, near Alexandria, known as Battery Rodgers, which is mounted with heavy guns of long range, is also essential to guard the river approach to the metropolis; and Fort Whipple, in Virginia, about midway between Alexandria and this city, used as a military prison, and to which the Old Capitol prisoners were removed.

DECISION ON A BOUNTY CLAIM.

On a claim for one hundred dollars bounty, preferred by a soldier, who enlisted July 18, 1861, under the provisions of general orders numbers fifteen and twenty-five of 1861, which do not limit the term of enlistment to two years' service in order to entitle volunteers to the $100 bounty allowed at that time, and who was discharged for disability before the expiration of two years, the Paymaster-General has decided that the soldier is not entitled to the bounty in question, for these reasons, viz.: The act of July 22, 1861, applies to all three years' men who enlisted from the commencement of the rebellion up to the call of July 18, 1864; but General Order No. 38, of the year 1864, from the War Department, is explanatory of General Orders Nos. 15 and 25, of the year 1861, and this plainly states that a continued service of two years is required to entitle volunteers to receive the $100 bounty.

CASH ON HAND.

The following was to-day laid before the House of Representatives:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, March 17, 1866.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a resolution from the House of Representatives, under date of 5th inst., requesting the "Secretary of the Treasury to prepare a statement showing the amount of money now in the United States Treasury, including all sums in the hands of Assistant Treasurers, National Banks and all other depositories; designating the amount in each separately, and report the same to this House."

I transmit herewith a communication from the Treasurer of the United States, together with statements prepared by him, furnishing the information called for by the resolution, from which it will appear that the available balance in the Treasury, according to returns received to the 10th inst., is $123,423,885 91, consisting of coin $57,799,921 37; currency $65,623,-964 54; of which sum $21,780,358 55 was on deposit in National Banks designated as depositories.

I am, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
H. MCCULLOCH,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Hon. SCHUYLER COLFAX, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SATURDAY, March 17.

POLITICAL DEBATES.

The proceedings of the House to-day were confined to general debate as if in Committee of the Whole on the President's annual message.

Mr. HILL, of Indiana, addressed the House on the question of reconstruction. He deemed it of no practical importance to discuss the point whether the States that went into Secession and war, were or were not out of the Union. The Governments of these States were certainly impaired and were not during the war in relations with the General Government. Those relations had to be restored. How? The President's power in the matter could only be the war power, and that could not be held to extend to the restoration of civil and political rights. It therefore devolved upon the Legislative Department of the Government to restore the impaired or deranged functions of the rebel States. The duty of considering and devising the best means of doing so had been intrusted by Congress to a Joint Committee of both Houses. He had still some hope that that Committee would recommend, and that Congress would adopt such a system as would reëstablish the relations of the seceded States with the General Government, in a way that would harmonize the whole country, and maintain the principles of the Declaration of Independence.

Mr. DUMONT (of Indiana) next addressed the House, reviewing, in a humorous and sarcastic style, the reconstruction policy of the President. He prayed God to bless the President for what he had done and to stiffen his backbone against backing down. The President had been faithful in the past, and he trusted that he would not be faithless in the future. As to the President's policy, he deemed it unwise, ruinous, and disastrous. He protested that he entertained no feeling of revenge against the South, and would exact nothing with a view to its humiliation. But before the Southern States could get into Congress by his consent they must come up to all reasonable requirements and send representatives who were loyal and who could take the iron-clad oath.

Mr. ANDERSON, of Missouri, was the next speaker. He also took grounds against the President's reconstruction policy. In regard to the status of the freedmen, he declared that he never would yield to the doctrine that they were not entitled to the best function of citizenship. He believed they were now citizens of the United States. The Constitution was to be interpreted to-day from the standpoint of freedom and not of slavery. He did not believe that a Freedmen's Bureau Bill was broad enough to build a political platform upon, nor did he think that the Democratic party could make a successful race on the President's veto. Both platforms were too narrow a guage for the American people to stand upon. The great, the living, the vital question of the hour was the extension of suffrage to the negro in the Southern States, with a view to the negro's own protection and to the maintenance of the loyal supremacy of the Union. He declared himself in favor of unrestricted negro suffrage in the southern States.

The Speaker presented a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury transmitting a statement of the amount now in the United States Treasury, including all sums now in the hands of Assistant Treasurers, National Banks and all other depositories, in answer to a resolution of the House of the 5th instant. Laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

The available balance in the Treasury on the 10th inst. was as follows: Coin, $57,799,921; currency, $65,623,964—total, $123,423,885, of which sum $21,-000,000 was on deposit in National Banks.

Adjourned.

Reconstruction in Georgia.

Among the dispatches furnished to the Senate in a communication from Secretary SEWARD, are the following:

TELEGRAM.

Received 2:50 P. M., Nov. 24.

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga., Nov. 21, 1865.

Andrew Johnson, President of the United States:

No members of Congress elected can take the oath. Shall I issue certificates of election? The Legislature will probably be, to some extent, impracticable and refractory. I am inclined to think a suspension of pardons might have a salutary effect. I shall be a candidate for the Senate, and of course will be defeated.

J. J. JOHNSON, Provisional Governor.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S TELEGRAM.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 26, 1865.

James Johnson, Provisional Governor, Milledgeville, Ga.:

You will continue to act as Provisional Governor of Georgia until relieved and your successor recognized by the Government. At present, as *Provisional Governor*, I would issue no certificates of election to members of Congress elect.

If I understand your dispatch, none of the members elect to Congress, from Georgia, can take the oath of office as it now stands. Please advise me of their real status as to loyalty and qualification in regard to disability under the law and Constitution, and report to me if you have apprehensions as to the action of your Legislature, and hope that all will come out right. You will accept the approbation of the Government for the loyal and efficient manner in which you have discharged your duty as Provisional Governor.

ANDREW JOHNSON,
President of the United States.

Resolution of the National Convention of Stove-Founders—Excitement among the Moulders and Stove-Mounters.

ALBANY, Saturday, March 17.

The National Convention of Stoye-Founders unanimously adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, That we will proceed at once to introduce into our shops all the apprentices or helpers that we deem advisable, and that we will not allow any Union Committees in our shops, and that we will in every way possible free our shops of all dictation or interference on the part of our employes.

This resolution was posted in all the foundries in Troy on Friday afternoon, causing very great excitement among the stove-moulders. Last evening the Iron-moulders and Stove-moulders Unions held a meeting and resolved that they would refuse to work until the resolution above recited is rescinded. Accordingly, this morning, the moulders in all the foundries in Troy refused to go to work, and the foundries were all closed. Much excitement prevails.

Consolidation of Stage Line, Express and Despatch Companies.

ATCHISON, Saturday, March 17.

All the stage line, express and despatch companies west of the Missouri River, have been consolidated, under the name of Hockaday's Overland Mail and Express Company. Fare will be reduced twenty-five per cent. from and after April 1.

The Reciprocity Treaty.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, March 15.

It is known that the Reciprocity Treaty between the United States and the British Provinces expires on the 17th of March, but the Treasury Department will not consider that it has terminated until 12 o'clock to-night, in order that merchandise, &c., now in transit may have an opportunity to reach its place of destination.

From San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Saturday, March 17.

The Mining Share market is without decided change. Savage, $990; Belcher; $275; Gould & Curry, $1,000; Yellow Jacket, $768; Choller Potosi, $385; Ophir, $610; Hale & Norcross, $1,000; Crown Point, $1,175; Imperial, $145.

Legal Tenders, 76½.

Large Fire in Minneapolis.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn, Friday, March 17.

A fire here last night destroyed twenty buildings from First to Davis street. Loss $100,000.

From Titusville, Penn.

TITUSVILLE, Penn., Saturday, March 17.

The first election under our City Charter passed off yesterday in the most quiet and orderly manner. J. M. ANGIER was elected Mayor, together with the whole People's ticket.

National Guard Movements.

RECENT ORDERS.

The following orders are published for the information of those concerned:

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH BRIGADE, N. Y. S. N. G.,
NEW-YORK, Feb. 28, 1866.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 1.—I. The commissioned officers of the regiments of this brigade will assemble (in fatigue dress, without side arms) on the evenings of the 15th and 29th of March, at 7 o'clock, at the drill room of the Twenty-second Infantry, N. G., for practice in brigade evolutions. Commandants of regiments will cause four (4) equal sub-divisions of the officers under their command to be formed, and in one rank, each commanded by a captain; field officers and adjutants will act as such, and sergeant-majors, one sergeant standard-bearer, general guides, and two markers from each regiment, will act as such to the skeleton battalions thus formed, color-sergeants, (who will be placed on the left of second sub-divisions of their battalions,) will be provided with a camp color in place of a standard, and general guides, with the proper guidons. Commandants of regiments will see that the above directions are carried out, and the officers of each company will be under hand, previous to the arrival of their commands at the above-named drill-room. The officers of the brigade staff will report to the Commanding General at the times and places above designed. The positions of the regiments in line are the Fourth, Seventh, Twenty-second, Sixty-ninth, Seventy-ninth and Ninety-fifth, respectively.

II. The following changes in the field officers of the brigade are announced: Col. James Bagley, Sixty-ninth Infantry, N. G., honorably discharged Dec. 20, 1865. Col. S. R. Pinckney, Ninety-fifth Infantry, N. G., honorably discharged Jan 29, 1866. Lieut.-Col. D. M. Elliott, Seventy-ninth Infantry, N. G., resignation accepted Feb. 5, 1866. Col. Addison Farnsworth, Seventy-ninth Infantry, N. G., commissioned, with rank, from Nov. 27, 1865, *vice* McLean, resigned. Col. James F. Cox, Twenty-second Infantry, N. G., commissioned, with rank, from Dec. 28, 1865, *vice* Aspinwall, promoted. Lieut.-Col. George E. Post, Twenty-second Infantry, N. G., commissioned, with rank, from Jan. 12, 1866, *vice* Cox, promoted. Major Ed. M. Townsend, Twenty-second Infantry, N. G., commissioned, with rank from Jan. 12, 1866, *vice* Post, promoted. The following appointments on the brigade staff are announced: Capt. George McClure, Brigade Quartermaster, commissioned, with rank, from Jan. 12, 1867, *vice* Jackson, term expired. Major F. W. Woodhull, Brigade Hospital Surgeon, reappointed. By order of

Brig.-Gen. LLOYD ASPINWALL,
Commanding Fourth Brigade.

ROBERT TAYLOR, A. A. A. G.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH REGIMENT N. G. S. N. Y.,
NEW YORK, March 13, 1866.

GENERAL ORDER No. 2.—I.—The following companies, comprising the right wing, will assemble (in full fatigue) for battalion drill, on this day (March 13), viz.: Companies D, C, H, G and K. The following companies, comprising the left wing, will assemble for the same purpose, on Thursday, March 29, viz.: Companies A, B, F, and E. Roll-call of Companies at 7:45 o'clock P. M.

By order of Col. EMMONS CLARK.

J. H. LIEBENAU, Adjutant.
Official: R. M. WEED, Sergeant-Major.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH REGIMENT,
NATIONAL GUARD STATE OF NEW-YORK,
NEW-YORK, March 8, 1866.

GENERAL ORDER No. 5.—1. The infantry companies of this regiment are directed to assemble at the State Arsenal, corner Seventh-avenue and Thirty-fifth-street, on Thursday evening, March 22; Monday evening, March 26, and Wednesday evening, March 28, in full fatigue, for drill. Roll-call of companies at 7:30 o'clock. Muskets are provided at the Arsenal. Line will be formed at 8 o'clock. Field and staff will report to the Colonel at 7:45 o'clock. Drum Corps and non-commissioned staff (and at the last drill, on the 28th, the band) will report to the Adjutant at 7:45 o'clock.

2. Capt. SMITH, with the troop, will take charge of the room at the drill on the 28th, and detail a guard to report at 7 o'clock.

3. The two first drills will be private; for the Exhibition Drill on the 28th tickets will be issued, which will be distributed by the Commandant of Companies.

4. Sergt. LEWIS SNYDER, of Corp. JAMES H. ROGERS, of H, are reduced to the ranks for neglect of duty.

By order of Col. J. M. VARIAN.

J. P. DURFEE, Adjutant.

THE AUDITING BOARD.

By chapter 397, laws of 1862, provision was made for the payment of all proper claims against the State of New-York for expenses connected with the volunteer service. Under the act, all claims audited by a Board composed of the Inspector-General, Judge-Advocate-General and Quartermaster-General. Since the passage of the act, claims amounting to over $700,000 have been acted upon by the Board, on which about $350,000 have been allowed. The appropriation for the purpose of paying these claims expires, by constitutional limitation, on the 25th of April next, and all claims before the Board will be acted upon and determined before that date. Col. SILAS W. BURT, Assistant Inspector-General, has been Secretary of the Board since its organization. His office is at No. 544 Broadway.

COMMISSIONS RECENTLY ISSUED.

The following officers have been commissioned by the Commander-in-Chief in the National Guard, State of New-York, during the week ending March 17, 1866:

Third Brigade—James W. Purdy, Hospital Surgeon, March 14, 1866, *vice* Quackenbos, declined.

Twenty-second Regiment of Infantry—Theodore H. Freeland, Second Lieutenant, March 14, 1866, *vice* J. Smith, promoted.

Fifty-ninth Regiment of Infantry—William W. Fanfield, First Lieutenant, March 14, 1866, *vice* F. S. Roberts, resigned.

Eighteenth Regiment of Infantry.—Wilbur H. Anderson, Captain, March 13, 1866, *vice* S. S. Chamberlain, resigned. Robert Pierson, Second Lieutenant, March 13, 1866, *vice* James H. Day, removed. Albert E. Smatland, Captain, March 13, 1866, *vice* R. C. Worthington, left the district. David A. Wilkinson, Second Lieutenant, March 13, 1866, *vice* A. E. Smatland, promoted.

Eighty-second Regiment of Infantry.—John Mann, Second Lieutenant, March 14, 1866, *vice* James J. Wright, promoted.

Eighty-fourth Regiment of Infantry.—Samuel Stephenson, First Lieutenant, March 14, 1866, *vice* J. Knoblock, left the district. Patrick Doyle, Second Lieutenant, March 14, 1866, *vice* Pitcher, left the district.

One Hundred and Third Regiment of Infantry.—Samuel L. Blackman, Adjutant, March 14, 1866, *vice* D. D. Dimmick, resigned.

RESIGNATIONS IN THE NATIONAL GUARD.

The following resignations of officers in the National Guard, State of New-York, have been accepted by the Commander-in-Chief during the week ending March 17, 1866:

March 12, Twenty-fifth Regiment, Hugh O'Hare, Second Lieutenant, declined.

March 12, Eightieth Regiment, S. S. Chamberlain, Captain, absent from district.

March 12, Eightieth Regiment, Hugh F. Peters, Captain, absent from district.

March 12, Eightieth Regiment, Eugene Griffith, Second Lieutenant, physical disability.

March 12, Fifty-second Regiment, H. C. Baden, Major, absent from district.

March 12, Fifty-ninth Regiment, John J. Robson, First Lieutenant, declined.

March 12, Seventy-fourth Regiment, Thomas A. Craig, First Lieutenant, declined.

March 12, Twelfth Regiment, William Dyatt, First Lieutenant, declined.

March 12, Twelfth Regiment, S. C. Bradway, Second Lieutenant, ill health.

March 12, Twenty-second Regiment, Henry Howland, Engineer, absent from district.

March 12, Twenty-second Regiment, Wm. J. A. McGrath, Captain, declined.

MISCELLANEOUS GOSSIP.

Rev. Dr. BOOTH, Chaplain of the Twenty-second Regiment, will, in compliance with the request of the Board of Officers, preach a sermon to the members of the Regiment this evening, at the Mercer-street Presbyterian Church, between Waverley-place and Eighth-street. Services to commence at 7:30 o'clock.

The members of the Yosburgh Association are requested to meet at their headquarters, Armory of the Seventy-first Regiment, over Centre Market, on Tuesday evening next, the 20th inst. A punctual attendance is desired, as the business before the meeting will be the election for First and Second Vice-Presidents, two Secretaries, Treasurer and Sergeant-at-Arms.

Company G of the Twenty-third Regiment were at home last evening, in the Assembly Rooms of the Academy of Music. They succeeded in making their numerous guests feel perfectly at home, affording them a very pleasant entertainment.

The Twenty-second Regiment having tendered the use of their armory and the services of the Regimental Band, to further the proposed benefit in aid of the garrison at Governor's Island, to enable them to purchase a library in place of the one recently destroyed by fire, a promenade concert will be given on Wednesday evening, the 28th inst., the proceeds to be devoted to the fund now raising to that end. In addition to the Twenty-second Regiment Band, the Fort Columbus Band (Regulars) will be present, forming two entire orchestras. The old library destroyed cost nearly $28,000.

One hundred and fifty additional overcoats will be issued in a few days to the Twenty-second Regiment. Captain THOS. L. THORNELL, commanding Company D, purchased these overcoats during Gov. SEYMOUR'S term of office, and the State has at last agreed to accept them from him, making appropriations for the repayment of the moneys expended by him.

The battalion drills to be held by the Seventh Regiment this week, are understood to be open to the public.

A drill of the officers and non-commissioned officers of the Second Brigade will be held on the 28th inst., at the State Arsenal, corner of Thirty-fifth-street and Seventh-avenue. Line to be formed at 8 P. M. precisely.

At the parade of the First Division on Evacuation Day, mention was made in these columns of the neat and serviceable uniform worn by the Twelfth Regiment, and the fact that they had discarded the leg-

MISCELLANEOUS.

SPECIAL INSURANCE NOTICE.

Messrs. TEMPLE & HOADLEY, No. 28 Wall-st., New-York, attend promptly to all kinds of

FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE

in first-class City or out-of-town companies.

Rents, leases and good-will of leases protected against loss or destruction by fire.

Parties dropping us a line will be called upon or when out of town will receive a prompt reply.

References: David Hoadley, Esq., Messrs. Hening & Pearce, Messrs. Abernethy & Co., Messrs. Phelps, Dodge & Co.

M. ROCK,

(formerly coat cutter to Mr. J. M. Cullin,)

Respectfully intimates that he will open business on MONDAY, March 19, 1866, at

NO. 738 BROADWAY,

Over Wood Gibson, Saddler, opposite Grace Church.

He also informs his friends and acquaintances that he has engaged one of the best TROUSER and VEST cutters in the City.

Very respectfully,

M. ROCK.

ADDRESS POLLAK & SON—MEERschaum manufacturers, No. 597 Broadway, near 4th-st. Pipes cut to order, mounted and repaired.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

IMMENSE PRICES PAID FOR OLD BOOKS—CHEAPEST BOOKSTORE IN THE WORLD.—18,000 Theological works at your price; 100,000 books History, Biography, &c., at our price; 500,000 Miscellaneous. Views, &c., at any price. Catalogues. LOUIS GATBOTHEIMER, No. 113 Nassau-st., below Beekman.

RELIGIOUS NOTICES.

THE TWENTIETH-STREET UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY having sold their church, will temporarily occupy the Everett Rooms, 24th-st. and 4th-av., on and after SUNDAY, March 25. SUNDAY AFTERNOON, March 18, leave will be taken of the church, 20th-st., west of 6th-av. Rev. E. G. BROOKS preaches in *The History of Universalism in New-York*. Service at 3 o'clock. Morning service at 10½.

MACDOUGAL-ST. BAPTIST CHURCH.—Rev. L. W. OLNEY, Pastor, will preach in this church SABBATH, March 18, at 10½ o'clock A. M. and 7½ o'clock P. M. Theme of the morning discourse: *The Baptismal Surprise*. For the evening: *The Great Salvation*. The ordinance of baptism administered after the evening discourse. Meeting every evening during the week. All made welcome.

REV. G. W. BURNHAM, OF MASSACHUSETTS, preaches for Messiah Church (Presbyterian), between 11th and 12th sts., every SABBATH AFTERNOON and EVENING, A. M. service at 10½. Lecture TUESDAY EVENING, and at No. 13 Montgomery-st., Jersey City, every WEDNESDAY EVENING. All are invited to be present. Seats free.

CHURCH OF THE REDEMPTION, EAST 14th-st., opposite the Academy of Music.—A series of Sunday evening discourses will be delivered (D. V.) in this Church by the following distinguished clergymen: Rev. S. H. WESTON, D. D., of Trinity Parish, on SUNDAY, 18th; Rev. ALEXANDER

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE POLICE DISCIPLINE.

An Hour in the Police School—Inspector Leonard's Blue Coat—Roundsman Simonds' Academy and Infant School.

The thorough efficiency of that most useful body of public servants, the Metropolitan Police, is secured by their conforming to a code of laws, rules and regulations laid down for their government by the proper State and Police authorities. And that officers newly appointed on the force may be properly taught their duties before entering on actual active service, not only is each one furnished with a book of regulations for his careful study, but he is required to attend for thirty days or more, the "School of Instruction" under that excellent teacher Inspector JAMES LEONARD. As the establishment of Prof. LEONARD is unique, a morning's visit is not without its own peculiar interest to the curious.

This school for able-bodied Police infants is in operation five days in the week, Wednesday being a holiday for every "little boy blue," for the reason that then their school-room is otherwise occupied.

In fact, Wednesday is the dreaded day when the bell boys come up for punishment before the Board of Police Commissioners under the immediate leadership of the jolly yet implacable THOMAS, surnamed ACTON, and few officers who have survived an hour at "Trial Chamber" care to speedily revisit that lonely spot.

The qualifications of a Metropolitan Policeman are specified as eight in number.

1. He must be able to read and write the English language.
2. He must be a citizen of the United States.
3. He must have been a resident of the Metropolitan Police District for five years immediately preceding his appointment.
4. He must never have been convicted of crime.
5. He must be 5 feet 8 inches in hight.
6. He must be not over 35 years of age.
7. Of good health and sound body.
8. Of good moral character.

His duties are many, so many that he is not permitted to assume the authority of a full-fledged officer until he has graduated at Professor LEONARD's highly respectable academy.

There are usually about thirty pupils in the class, though the number fluctuates all along between forty and a hundred. The boys having received from the surgeon their certificates of physical ability, and having otherwise passed their preliminary examination, are ordered to be in attendance on Inspector LEONARD every day during school hours, from 10 A. M. till noon. Having been invested with the regulation baton and belt, the cap with its wreath and number and the shield, each lad is supposed to set himself diligently to work to master that important and abstruse work, the "Manual for the Government of the Police Force."

At a little before the appointed hour in the morning, the "children of larger growth" begin to drop into the chamber, which soon takes on the appearance of any other school-room; some of the scholars sitting apart with puzzled brows and rumpled hair, trying to commit to memory the rules from that terrible book; others walking cheerily about with self-satisfied air, having evidently got their lessons by heart before they came to school, like good little boys as they are; others collecting in little groups to discuss the rules and regulations, trying, like sensible men, to get at the true intent and meaning of the ordinances by which their future official conduct is to be guided, rather than contenting themselves with merely learning the words by rote, like huge overgrown parrots; still others engage in joking, skylarking and as much fun as if they were really once more schoolboys again.

Suddenly a quieting murmur runs through the crowd denoting the advent of the Professor, who comes in with his hands full of papers, his heavy golden shield denoting his exalted rank. In an instant every student takes his seat, discards his diversions for the time, and becomes all attention, for, though their Professor is generally a most patient man, and kindly withal, he is very properly impatient of interruptions and inattention, and during school hours he will have "No Levity."

The most advanced scholars are now called up one by one, to say their lessons. Standing at "parade rest" in an attitude of attention, the student is put through a thorough course of questioning. And here now can be witnessed every possible phase of quickness to comprehend, dullness to understand or apparently total obliviousness to what is required. They are precisely like a class of schoolboys—one has got the whole thing off by heart, and can rattle off every word without book—is in fact "dead letter perfect" in the part, so far as the words themselves go. Him the ruddy Professor permits to go on for a while without check, until the flattered candidate fancies that all is right, when he is suddenly brought to a sudden halt by some quiet question as to what all these words really mean—some mild putting of a practical instance, followed by the simple question "What would you do in such a case?" This tries the temper of the youth; if he really does understand the meaning of the rules his common sense will readily enable him to apply them to this suppositious case—if, on the contrary, his apparent familiarity with the regulations is a mere matter of the memory only he is soon "stumped."

Then one steps up who, though not pretending to give chapter and verse, word, syllable and letter, as laid down in the book, yet shows in five minutes that he has mastered the true intent of the laws, and that a little more study will give him all the merely verbal familiarity that is necessary.

Next comes an unfortunate wight who does not seem to have the slightest notion of either the spirit or the letter of the law. He seems incapable of making any distinctions or drawing any lines; his one idea of police duty seems to be comprehended in the one notion that when anybody does anything it is his duty to "arrest him." He has no discretion, judgment or sense so far as can be seen; his dullness seems impenetrable—stupidity enwraps the entire man. Yet this demeanor is frequently the result of confusion and embarrassment, and the man being allowed a few minutes to recover himself may develop a reasonable degree of intelligence. But in some cases it seems a hopeless task to try to beat through the cloudy intellects of the unfortunate, it really seems sometimes for weeks as if, so far as the entrance of ideas is concerned, the thick head is not "made of penetrable stuff." Yet when one of these seeming dullards does at last, by dint of daily precept and constant example, master the routine of duty, he not unfrequently makes a careful, steady and trustworthy officer. The one who is o'er quick to learn is likely to get himself into some trouble on account of his over-enthusiastic zeal, than will another by reason of his hesitating ignorance. Long experience has given Prof. LEONARD a remarkably quick insight into character, and especially into police character the intellectual calibre of the trembling novice is soon determined—his mental measure is speedily taken and the means to meet his particular case quickly decided on—if he is too fast, if he knows too much, he is gently checked—to be made certain that he knows that much thoroughly; if he is dull, his memory is stimulated by quiet suggestions, or his comprehension, aided by carefully-put supposed cases. In short, the style of instruction is varied as the candidates vary in intelligence and sense. But through the most illiterate, stupidity, or the most flippant readiness—the Inspector is ever patient, explaining and illustrating with minutest care and untiring patience every point of police work, until, if the man be the throughly conversant with his duty by the time his probationary month is up, he must be either too inveterately lazy to study, or too hopelessly dull to learn.

After a certain number of candidates for immediate graduation are examined each morning, a short lecture in a novel form is given. Each man, as he is called upon, stands up, regulation book in hand, and reads a paragraph aloud; then "the next," and "the next" rise in turn, each reading a few sentences, precisely like our old-fashioned class in "Second Reader" or District School. As the rules are thus read the inspector comments on and explains each, not unfrequently reading extracts from the State statutes, or the City ordinances upon which the particular Police regulation is founded.

The aspirant for the shield and club if he be a man of intelligence and industry will acquire a sufficient knowledge of the Revised Statutes to know why a given police regulation is made, and will perfectly understand the distinctive difference between the duties of civil officers and policemen. Some of the men have to remain a longer time, some get through in a shorter; but, for a person previously unacquainted with police duty, it requires about thirty days to graduate with honorable distinction at the Police Academy of Prof. LEONARD.

THE MILITARY AND CLUB DRILL.

As the police are a semi-military organization, they have to learn a soldierly drill. This department is attended to by Roundsman WILLIAM H. SIMONDS, a most thorough and efficient officer.

A large room is devoted to this kind of instruction, and the men are kept at it for two hours a day, during their month of probation. Mr. SIMONDS teaches them the ordinary "School of the Soldier" and "School of the Company," substituting the baton exercise for the musket loadings and firings. The regulation or parade baton is 22 inches long, handsomely turned from ebony, walnut or other dark wood, ornamented with a scarlet cord and tassels, and worn in a handsome enamelled belt with silver-plated clasp. The "service club," better known as the "locust," is 24 inches long, plainly turned from locust tree wood, and is secured to the wrist by a leather thong. This is the club with which the ominous "alarm rap" is given at night. The "stick" used in the drill room is locust, somewhat shorter than the service club.

The drill with the clubs consists of an exercise somewhat like the broadsword practice, and is in fact a combination of the broadsword with the single-stick play. It is most effective, and a squad of well-drilled officers with the baton can do most excellent service and can easily disperse a mob of ten times their number, as many a sore head and cracked cranium can testify. A New-York mob have such a respect for the locust that they fear the officers more than they would if they were armed with revolvers.

In the club-drill is to be seen the same diversity of ability in the men that is observable in Inspector LEONARD's school. Some learn it readily, some with difficulty, and some never learn it at all.

There is also an additional exercise, consisting rather of wrestling tricks than anything else—the object is to enable an officer, himself unarmed, to take the weapon from an adversary who is threatening him with a club or even a musket and bayonet. Many of the men become very expert at every branch of the drill, some of them being old soldiers who take to it naturally. It is thoroughly and carefully taught, and, while Inspector LEONARD instructs the men when to use their clubs, Roundsman SIMONDS teaches them how to do it in the most effective and eminently satisfying manner.

With regard to the skill of Roundsman SIMONDS, on the branches he professes to teach, it is said that with his club in his hand he is a match for a swordsman of ordinary ability; and when without his locust, has been known, though by no means a giant himself, to twist a cart-rung from the grip of a stalwart six-footer, and with it pay the gentleman a compliment that took the fight out of every inch of the whole six feet of him before he knew what hurt him.

Police Trials.

BEFORE COMMISSIONERS ACTON, BERGEN AND MANIERRE.

At Police Trials, on Wednesday, Sergt. CHARLES F. WILLIAMS and Patrolman PATRICK OATES were arraigned on charges growing out of a drunken brawl in the Fourth Ward, in which, on the morning of the 28th ult., several seamen were severely clubbed. On the evening of the 27th, Officer OATES, who had leave of absence, took Miss ABBY SULLIVAN to a theatre, and after their return to her father's house, at No. 91 Cherry-street, the officer tarried awhile. At about 1 o'clock on the morning of the 28th, an inebriate entered the bar-room—the place is a sailor's boarding-house—and was told that the proprietor wished to close for the night. The unwelcome visitor, after some words, was thrust from the place by Officer OATES; but presently he returned, accompanied by three seamen who had indulged until they had lost their senses, and the four intruders attacked the inmates of the house. They dragged Miss SULLIVAN into the street and there struck and kicked her, and when Officer OATES attempted to interfere they knocked him to the pavement and beat and kicked him; but he contrived to get on his feet and strike an alarm rap, and soon he was joined by Patrolmen JOHN OATES and JOHN HORSMAN. The three policemen then reduced the seamen to submission, not however without free application of their batons, and the seamen were taken to the Oak-street Police-station. They rendered the names of DANIEL CONWAY, WILLIAM DOWNEY and ALEXANDER SERVICE, and their abode as No. 91 Roosevelt-street. Sergt. WILLIAMS, who was in command, committed SERVICE and CONWAY to the cells, and sent DONNELLY into the wash-room to have the blood washed from his wounds. The sergeant would have summoned Police-surgeon WATERMAN, but Capt. THORNE, who just then came in from patrol duty, examined DONNELLY's wounds, and both he and DONNELLY thought it a mere scalp wound, not requiring the services of a surgeon; so the wounded prisoner was committed to a cell. The charge against Sergt. WILLIAMS was preferred by Inspector CARPENTER, and alleged that Police-Sergeant WILLIAMS was guilty of gross neglect of duty in omitting to send for Surgeon WATERMAN; but the charge was not sustained; nor, indeed, was that against Patrolman OATES. In dismissing the complaint against Policeman OATES, President ACTON advised him to "keep out of dram-shops and let gin alone," a great Capt. THORNE remarked that the officer was strictly abstemious, and never entered a dram-shop except he had better business than gin-drinking.

A WOMAN IN THE CASE.

Mr. ADRIAN F. NESBITT, of No. 6 Devoe-street, Williamsburgh, artist, accused Patrolman PETER L. BROWNE of assaulting him without provocation. Mrs. BROWNE, a young woman of fine personal appearance and unexceptionable address, appeared in Trial Chamber, and testified that she was once the wife of Mr. NESBITT; that, after a divorce had been awarded her, Mr. NESBITT took measures to annoy her, and subsequent to her marriage to Patrolman BROWNE, NESBITT continued his annoyance until she felt constrained to appeal to her husband; that, on Saturday evening, the 24th ultimo, she accompanied her husband to the market at the intersection of Grand and Ninth streets, in Williamsburgh, and that Mr. BROWNE, having called Mr. NESBITT to the street, said: "This woman is now my wife, and hereafter I desire you to mind your own business and not molest her." NESBITT replied: "I always mind my own business, and want you to do the same," and at that moment, according to the testimony, laid his hand roughly upon Mrs. BROWNE's arm, and said that her divorce papers had been forged. Whereupon Officer BROWNE, who was in civilian attire, struck him. The Commissioners made no intimation of their probable decision in this case.

A PARTY IN FIFTH-AVENUE.

Mr. MELTON WHITE, of No. 323 Fifth-avenue, made affidavit that at about 7 o'clock on the evening of the 3d instant, while he was standing on the sidewalk in front of that number of said street, Patrolman WM. FICKENGER asked what he was doing there; that he replied that he was on duty, under the orders of his employer, Mr. WM. J. SCHENCK; that the officer then attempted to seize him, but that he escaped and took refuge in Mr. SCHENCK's house, and was pursued by Patrolman FICKENGER and therein seized and thrice struck on the arm by the officer, whom Mr. WHITE imagines to have been under the influence of liquor. Mr. WHITE further adds that Officer FICKENGER did not take him into custody. Mr. SCHENCK appeared against the officer and said that this having been a party and ball at his abode, he had stationed Mr. WHITE at the door to take charge of the coaches; that he heard the shouts of WHITE and hastened to ascertain the nature of the difficulty; that when he reached the spot the officer had WHITE by the throat and was cursing him as a "d—— nigger;" that he refused to give his number and threatened to arrest the deponent if he dared interfere, and that the officer was under the influence of liquor. Sergt. O'BRIEN disproved the charge so far as it related to liquor, but the Commissioners thought any further attempt to defend mere waste of time, as the officer's language was not to be tolerated and would probably be regarded as cause for dismissal.

NOT MAKING COMPLAINT AT COURT.

Sergt. IRA S. GARLAND, of Jefferson Market Police Court, appeared against Patrolman JOHN W. HAGERTY, of the Fifteenth Precinct, and charged him on the morning of the 5th inst. the officer "refused to make a complaint against a prisoner, one FRANCES WILLIAMS," whom he had arrested for disorderly conduct. Defending, the officer said that he made the arrest under a roundsman's orders, and that, of course, he had no complaint to make at Court. The Board informed this officer that his error lay in not taking the name of the roundsman, so that the Court might summon him to prefer complaint against the prisoner.

Sergt. GARLAND also charged that Patrolman GEO. D. SHARP, of the Ninth Precinct, "refused to make complaint against ROBERT GRAIN, whom he had apprehended for intoxication." The lame excuse of the officer was that his prisoner was an invalid, who used liquor under the advice of a physician.

COMPLAINTS BY POLICE CAPTAINS.

Capt. JOHN J. WARD appeared against Patrolman SAMUEL B. RYER, of the Thirteenth Precinct, and accused him of permitting a number of cartmen to steal stone from off the Croton Acqueduct, between One Hundred and Thirty-first and One Hundred and Thirty-second streets, on the afternoon of the 7th inst., and the officer defended by showing that the stone was stolen while he was necessarily on another part of his post, which is one of the longest in the City.

Captain MORRIS DE CAMP, of the Second Precinct, sent Officer WILLIAM FARRELL to trial for absence from his post on the afternoon of the 4th instant, and the officer informed the Commissioners that at the time when Sergt. LARRY found him off post he had been to answer the call of Mr. COOPER C. PROUTY, of No. 3 Platt-street. Mr. PROUTY testified that he called the officer, and the Commissioners inquired whether Patrolman FARRELL remembered the instruction which he received at Inspector LEONARD's Police Academy. He should have reported at the Station-house desk that he had been called from his post, by a civilian, and if he had done this no complaint could have been entered.

Capt. JAMES GREER, of the Third Precinct, sent Patrolman MAURICE W. LOCKWOOD to trial for being off post on the evening of the 7th inst. The accused thought that Roundsman HOOKER had made the charge maliciously; but the Commissioners do not hear to allegations of this kind. The officer, however, cleared himself by showing that another roundsman had called him off post on police duty, and it appeared that the roundsman erred in not reporting the circumstance at the Chambers-street Police station.

Capt. H. B. WILSON found Patrolman JOHN KIERNS, of the Twenty-first Precinct, off post in a dram-shop at the intersection of Thirty-ninth-street and Third-avenue at near midnight on the 8th instant; but the Captain could not swear that the officer drank intoxicating liquor. Mr. CHRISTOPHER LYNCH, bar-tender, testified that the officer entered the place to purchase a paper of tobacco, but drank nothing, and Patrolman KIERNS, replying to President ACTON's question as to why an officer whose record was so good should thus transgress, appealed to his record for the last six years, but was told that he should have bought his tobacco on his own time, and that probably that purchase would prove a dear one.

Capt. FRANCIS C. SPEIGHT, of the Twenty-ninth Precinct, sent Patrolman THADDEUS H. DWYER to trial for absence from post forty minutes on the morning of the 5th instant, and the defence was that the accused was engaged in pursuit of two thieves He reported the fact to Sergt. LOWRY, but that officer was not to be found; so he told Sergt. WATSON, the complainant. Complaint dismissed.

Capt. HENRY RUSCHMAN appeared against Patrolman WM. CALLAHAN, of the Twenty-third Precinct, and summoned Sergt. McELWAIN and Roundsman CONNOLLY to testify that, at the 5 P. M. roll-call on the 9th inst., Officer CALLAHAN was intoxicated and unfit for duty; but the officer made oath that not a drop of intoxicating liquid passed his lips on the day of the alleged drunkenness, and explained that he smoked a half-dozen or more cigars, which stupefied him. The Commissioners thought that six cigars at ten cents each, and the forfeiture of a $1,000 situation was rather expensive smoking.

In the report of last week's trials it is said that "the Sergeant in command at the Twenty-sixth Precinct Police-station, on the night of the 22d ult., bundled a prisoner off to the cells without troubling himself to ascertain whether a rioter or a highly respectable citizen had been arrested." It appears that testimony which should have been given to the Police Commissioners was not given, and that the estimable Sergt. PELL, who was in command at the Hall at the time of the fireworks, strove to obtain some statement from the prisoner to justify him in ordering his release, but that the prisoner's behavior was such as to take from the Sergeant a power which he would gladly have exercised. Sergt. PELL did not commit the prisoner, but sent him to the Beekman-street Police-station, and instructed an officer to request the Sergeant in command there to make an investigation.

THE AMERICAN-CHINA TRADE.

Description of the New China Steamship Varuna—What Steamships New-York has Sent to the Celestial Empire.

Within the past few years many magnificent steamships have been constructed by the shipbuilders of New-York and vicinity, for service on the coast of China. Great success has attended American steamers designed for this trade, and our mechanics in consequence have won the warmest encomiums. It would seem that science and art have extended their aid in no department of handiwork more particularly than in the construction of these vessels; and the appreciation of the fact that their models, and the skill manifested in their erection, are regarded as of a superior order, is frequently practically shown by advices from that region, which state in effect that these vessels have almost banished from their waters the old-style, lumbering English crafts so numerous there a few years since, and which monopolized the entire trade of that Empire. The latest addition to this fleet of steamships, and which will sail on Thursday, March 15, for the coast of China, is the large and fine propeller *Varuna*, now lying at Pier No. 17 North River. This vessel was constructed by OBAD. H. MALLORY, of Mystic, Conn., and is regarded as a success. She is 196 feet in length on deck, 33 feet beam, 20 feet depth of hold, has two decks, draws 13 feet of water when cargo-laden, and is 1,008 tons burden, old measurement.

Her frame is of white oak, chestnut, &c., of the choicest quality, and put together by superior workmen; her floors are moulded 14 inches in the angles, are 9 inches in thickness, and all her frames are spaced 26 inches from centre to centre. Her bottom is metaled, and her rig is that of a brig.

Her motive power consists of two vertical direct-acting engines, cylinders 36 inches in diameter, and a stroke of piston of 8 feet; she is fitted with tubular boilers, and her propeller is 13 feet in diameter, has 4 blades and 18 feet pitch.

In pumps, anchors, valves, and all else necessary in a vessel of the *Varuna's* class and service, she is well fitted, and her various departments will be in charge of competent and experienced officers. Her machinery was constructed by the Delamater Iron Works, foot of Third-street, North River.

The arrival of this vessel upon the waters of her future service, will swell the number of first-class steamships that have left this port alone for the Celestial Empire to thirty-two, and the following are their names, together with their owners and the tonnage of each:

SIDE-WHEEL STEAMERS.

Name.	Owners.	Tonnage.
Fire-Queen	Aymar & Co	2,039
Foong-Suey	J. M. Forbes & Co	1,730
Po-Tang	Olyphant & Co	1,021
Fire-Dart	Aymar & Co	600
Shantung	Everett & Co	800
Oriflame	P. S. Forbes & Co	1,226
Wo-Yung	Geo. Briggs & Co	1,300
Kiang-Tsze	P. S. Forbes & Co	1,100
Rafael	Jno. R. Dow & Co	598
Hu-Quang	J. M. Forbes & Co	1,620
Plymouth Rock	J. M. Forbes & Co	1,730
Texas	T. W. Dearborn & Co	1,220
Foh-Kein	P. S. Forbes & Co	2,100
Hai-Kiang	Olyphant & Co	1,025
Hankow	J. M. Forbes & Co	800
Suwo-Nada	Everett & Co	1,803
Che-Kiang	Russell & Co	1,268
Fire-Fly	Johnson & Co	1,049
Kiang Loond	Everett & Co	1,098
Paon-Shun	Dearborn & Co	2,300
Total	20	26,280

PROPELLERS.

Ta-Kiang	Olyphant & Co	550
Sze-Chuen	P. S. Forbes & Co	1,025
Fauita	Mc Keady, Mott & Co	542
Fponne	Aymar & Co	655
Flambeau	P. S. Forbes & Co	899
Vulcan	Lindsley & Co	590
Tung-Shuny	Hilbreth & Co	735
Shan-se	P. S. Forbes & Co	1,095
Niphon	R. B. Forbes	675
Pal-Ke	Wetmore, Cryder & Co	750
Piuto	Lindsley & Co	356
Varuna	J. M. Forbes & Co	1,068
Total	12	8,659

RECAPITULATION.

Side-wheel steamers	20	26,280
Propellers	12	8,659
Total	32	34,939

GENERAL CITY NEWS.

A COLORED MAN PROVIDED WITH ARTIFICIAL FEET.—RICHARD THOMAS GRIFFIN, a colored young man who had his feet cut off by Tennessee rebels for trying to escape to the Union army, came from Washington to this city some time ago, in company with Mr. GEORGE W. ROSE, for the purpose of obtaining artificial feet. He has succeeded admirably. Through the efforts of Mr. CHARLES B. RAY he obtained $50 in Zion (Colored) Church; Mr. PETER S. PORTER obtained a much larger sum from the Hannibal Benevolent and Literary Society, and several white ladies and gentlemen. RICHARD was thus provided with pedals and a few greenbacks to boot, and sent back to Washington rejoicing in his thorough reconstruction.

THE RECENT RAILROAD ACCIDENT.—The man who was run over on Thursday night in West-street, by a train of cars belonging to the Hudson River Railroad, and mangled, has been identified as THOMAS HENNESSY, a laborer, about 50 years of age, who resided at the corner of Fifty-seventh-street and Broadway. Nothing is known as yet regarding the manner in which the deceased fell beneath the cars; but it is presumed that he was riding up town at the time, and slipped from his seat. Coroner WILDEY was notified, but adjourned the inquest until Wednesday evening next, to enable him to procure the necessary witnesses.

BURGLARY.—ROBERT J. BENDER was arrested on Friday night by the Fourteenth Precinct Police, on a charge of burglary, committed on the premises No. 69 East Houston-street, occupied by LOUIS JULIUS as a tobacconist, and carrying off $100 worth of cigars and other goods. The accused confessed the crime, and restored a portion of the stolen property. He was remanded for trial yesterday, by Justice DOWLING, in default of bail.

DIAMOND ROBBERY.—Detective SLOWEY arrested yesterday ROBERT IVERSON, a colored boy, about 16 years of age, lately in the employ of CYRUS RAMSAY, residing at No. 123 East Thirteenth-street, as a house servant. The charge against the prisoner was the alleged robbery of a pair of ear-rings, valued at $200. The jewels were found in his possession, and he was committed for trial by Justice DOWLING.

MONETARY AFFAIRS.

Sales at the Stock Exchange—MARCH 17, 1866.

$8,000 U. S. 6s, '81, C.	104⅜	200 N. Y. Central	93⅛
1,000 U. S. 5-20s, C. '62	103⅝	2,000 do	93⅛
15,500 U. S. 6s, 5-20s, C. '64	103⅝	300 do	93⅛
16,000 N. Y. St. 7s, Bounty Loan	99	100 do s60	93⅛
11,500 Tr. Gen. 7 3-10s, First Series	100	6,500 do	93⅛
900 do small	99⅝	200 do 2d call	93⅛
900 do Sec. Ser.	99⅝	200 do	93⅛
700 do	99⅝	100 do	93
9,000 do	100	200 do 2d call	93
2,050 do Third Ser.	99⅝	100 Erie R. Pref	81
5,000 do 2d call	99⅝	300 Hud. R. R	106⅛
3,000 Brooklyn City 6s, Water Loan	92	300 do	106¼
5,000 Virginia 6s	81	100 do 2d call	106
8,000 N. Car. 6s	82	1000 Reading R	106⅛
10,000 Missouri 6s	72⅜	300 do s10	100⅜
1,000 Mo. 6s, issued to Pacific R	72⅛	300 Mich. Cen. R	103⅛
1,000 do	72⅜	300 Mich. S. & N. I	78⅛
3,200 O. & M. Cer	25½	1100 do	78⅜
10,000 do b30	25⅝	100 do	78¼
10,000 do b30	25⅝	100 do s30	77
20,000 do	25⅝	300 do 2d call	78⅛
5,000 N. Y. Cen. 7s, '76	100	1000 Cleve. & Pitts	78⅜
2,000 Hud. Riv. R. 7s	103	200 do s10	78⅜
31,000 Hud. Riv. 1st M	98⅜	200 do 2d call	79
4,000 Mich. S. 2d M	90	400 Chi. & N. W	27⅜
75 Phenix Bank	108	500 do	27⅜
12 Manufac. Bank	108	300 Chic. & N. W. P	54⅜
10 Manuf. Mer. Bank	102	100 do	54⅜
100 Fourth N. Bk	98	100 do	54⅜
200 Canton Co	47⅛	100 do	54⅜
100 do	47⅜	100 do b30	54⅜
100 Central Coal	46	200 do b30	54⅜
200 do	46⅛	400 Cleve. & Tol	106
100 do	46⅜	400 Chi. & R. I	106⅛
800 Cum. Coal Pr	44⅜	10 Mil. & P. D. C. 1st Pr	91
300 do	44⅜	50 Morris & Essex	90
100 do 2d call	44⅜	100 Tol., Wab. & W	32
100 Cen. Am. Tran. Co	16	280 Pitts., F. W. & O	93½
50 West. U. Teleg'h	68	700 do	93⅛
100 do s15	67¾	400 do	93
500 Mariposa Pref	18⅛	300 do	92⅞
100 T. H. & Alt	38¾	400 Chic. & Alton	69
100 T. H. & Alt. Pr	62	300 Chi. & Alt. Pr	93½
9 Mil. & St. Paul	62		

1 O'CLOCK BOARD.

$8,000 Mo. State 6s	72⅛	200 N. Y. Central b30	93⅛
500 West. Union T	61⅜	300 Cleve. & Tol	106
100 Mariposa Pref	18⅜	100 Mich. S. & N. I b3	78⅞
100 do	18⅜	100 do	78⅜
100 Hud. Riv. R	106⅛	100 Chic. & R. I	106⅜
100 do s30	106	200 do	106⅛
100 Cleve. & Pitts	78⅜	200 do s30	106⅛
100 do	78⅜	65 P., F. W. & C	93⅜
100 do	78⅜		

2½ O'CLOCK BOARD.

$3,000 U. S. 6s, 5-20s, C. '62	103⅝	100 Mich. Cen. R	103⅛
90,000 U. S. 6s, 5-20s, C. '65	104	100 Cleve. & Pitts	78⅞
11,000 U. S. 5s, 10-40s C	90⅞	100 Chi. & N. W	27⅜
2,000 Cal. 7s	106	300 M. So. & N. I	78⅛
6,000 Amer. Gold	130	200 do 2d call	78⅛
100 Canton Co	47⅜	100 Chi. & N. W. P. b10	54⅜
300 do	47⅜	100 Chi. & R. I	106⅛
100 Mariposa Min	12⅜	200 do	106⅛
600 Cum. Coal Pr	45⅜	200 do s30	106⅜
100 do 2d call	45⅜	200 do 2d call s30	106
100 Union Trust Co	40	100 do	106⅛
84 West. U. Tel	61	100 do b30	106⅜
50 do	61⅛	100 P. F. W. & C	93⅜

The following bids were made for the City Bank Shares:

New-York	119	Bank of Republic	109
Merchants'	111½	Bank of N. America	106
America	137	Hanover	108
Phœnix	96	Irving	110
North River	120	Metropolitan	120
Tradesmen's	130	Market	108
Seventh Ward	105	Nassau	107
State of New York	105	Shoe and Leather	105
Commerce	105	Corn Exchange	112
Mechanics' Bkg Ass	107	Continental	95
Broadway	213	New-York County	140
Ocean	95	Importers' & Traders'	102
American Exchange	111	Manufac. & Merch's	102
Pacific	165	Fourth National	97⅞
Chatham	133	Ninth National	125

And the following for the Railway mortgages:

N. Y. Cen. 6s, 1883	90	Alton & T. H. 1st M	68½
N. Y. Cen. 7s, 1876	100	Alton & T. H. 2d M. pf.	77
N. Y. Cen. 7s, con., '76-'01	102⅜	Alton & T. H. 2d M. in.	70
Erie 1st M. 1859	91	Del. L. & W. 1st M	100½
Erie 7s, 4th mort., 1880	94	Tol. & Wab. 1st M	85
Erie 7s, 5th mort., 1888	93	Tol. & Wab. 1st M. Ex	85
Hud. R. 7s, 1st M '59	99½	Cleve. & Tol. S. Fund	90
Hud. R. 7s, 2ds. S. F. '85	103⅝	Pitts., Ft. W. & Ch., 1st	91
Hud. R. 7s, conv., '67	96	Pitts., Ft. W. & Ch., 2d	91
Harlem 3d mort., '68-'72	110	Pitts., Ft. W. & Ch., 3d	80
Mich. Cen. 1st M. 8s	112	Cleve & Pitts. 2d mort	90
Mich. So. 7 P. c. 2ds	89	Cleve. & P. 4th mort	70
Pacific R. R. 7s, g. Mo.	72	Chic. & Al. 1st M	93
Ill. Cen. 7 p. c. 1875	100	Mil. & St. Paul 1st M	84
Joliet & Chic. 1st mort.	96	Mil. & St. Paul 2d M	71
		Chi. & Mil. 1st M	84

The day's business at the office of the Assistant Treasurer of the United States was as follows: Receipts, $967,701 87; for Customs, $299,000; Coin Certificates, $35,400; on account of Loan, $313,145. Payments, $892,803. Balance, $93,111,916 83.

In its financial summary, the *Shipping and Commercial List*, of this morning, says:

"The Comptroller of the Currency, CLARKE, has published a most remarkable letter, which declares in substance that the monthly exhibits of the public debt are false. As might be expected, this letter has created a decided sensation in Washington, if we may judge by the telegraph reflex of public opinion there. In financial circles here it is pretty generally condemned as an unwarrantable interference with the prerogatives of the Secretary of the Treasury—which in the more aggravating in that it comes from a subordinate. The confidence of the country, and especially of the financial and commercial community, will scarcely be impaired by the charges Comptroller in this letter, and it only shows that the Comptroller is not so conversant with the recent enactments of Congress as he ought to be. Washington telegrams state that a Committee from the House called at the Treasury Department to ascertain the truth of the matter, and that they became fully convinced from personal examination, that the charges of the Comptroller were entirely groundless. The confidence of the country in the integrity and financial ability of Mr. MCCULLOCH cannot be easily shaken. The administration of his bureau has been satisfactory. He has steadfastly adhered to his oft-expressed determination to pursue the direct road to resumption of specie payments, and the progress which has been made in this direction has been remarkable.

BANKING AND FINANCIAL.

☞ THE ATTENTION OF OUR READERS IS called to the auction sale of 32 lots of land, comprising the entire block bounded by Madison and 4th-av., 57th and 58th-sts., to be made on Monday, March 19th, at 12 o'clock, by ADRIAN H. MULLER, F. R. WILLIAMS & CO., Auctioneers. The above property is a part of the estate of the late John Mason, and the sale affords a rare opportunity for capitalists to purchase property of original investors. There will be sold at the same time about 50 lots on 2d-av., Avenues A and B and 23d-st., being part of the same estate. Maps can be had at the office of the auctioneers, No. 6½ Pine-st.

PERSONAL.

INFORMATION WANTED OF THE whereabouts of Mr. JOHN BROMLEY, resident of the town of Westchester, who left home for Yonkers Feb. 14. Mr. B. is 33 years old, tall and stout, and by trade a painter. Address Box No. 5,891 New-York Post-office.

A. G. SPIES, FROM WILMINGTON, Del., late of the firm of Spies & Champney, jewelers, in Brooklyn, would like to see his friends on Friday evening, March 23, from 8 to 10 o'clock, at his brother-in-law's house, No. 64 Adams-st., Brooklyn.

FINANCIAL.

THE CLINTON FIRE INSURANCE CO.,

OFFICE NO. 156 BROADWAY.

CASH CAPITAL	$250,000 00
ASSETS, MARCH 1, 1866	261,831 06
LOSSES UNPAID	993 79

This Company continues to insure first-class risks against loss and damage by fire.

DIRECTORS.

Hugh Laing,	D. Henry Haight,
Effingham Townsend,	Geo. A. Townsend,
Amos R. Eno,	Charles R. Swords,
Silas Bronson,	Robert M. Bruce,
John Watson,	A. Ysmaga del Valle,
Samuel Willets,	Lawrence Turnure,
D. A. Cushman,	Henry S. Leverich,
Thomas Smull,	Jacob Van Wagenen,
Uriah J. Smith,	John E. Wilks,
S. L. H. Ward,	Preston H. Hodges,
John Scott Boyd,	Walker Burnes,
L. S. Suares,	Henry Coffin,
George Griswold,	Noah S. Hunt.

HUGH LAING, President.
JAMES B. AMES, Jr., Secretary.

LAWRENCE BROTHERS & CO.,

BANKERS, NO. 16 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK.

Collections made on all parts of the United States.

Deposits received from Banks, Bankers, Merchants, and others.

JOHN MUNROE & CO.,
AMERICAN BANKERS,
No. 8 Rue de la Paix, Paris,
and
No. 9 Wall-st., New-York,
issue circular letters of credit for travelers in all parts of Europe. &c., &c. Also, commercial credits.

WESCOTT'S EXPRESS STOCK.
100 SHARES FOR SALE.
Apply to
GEO. C. DUNBAR,
Dealer in Telegraph and Express Stocks,
No. 46 Pine-st.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.,
NO. 56 WALL-ST.,
ISSUE COMMERCIAL AND TRAVELERS' CREDITS FOR USE IN THIS COUNTRY AND ABROAD

MERCHANTS' NATIONAL BANK.
UNITED STATES DESIGNATED DEPOSITORY.
WASHINGTON, D. C.
CAPITAL TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS.

All issues of United States Government Securities bought and sold.
Claims on all the Departments collected promptly and remitted for.
Deposits in Gold and Currency received on favorable terms from all parts of the Union.
Certificates of Deposit issued payable at National Banks everywhere in the United States.
L. HUYCK, President.
C. A. SHERMAN, Cashier.

THE AMERICAN BUREAU OF MINES,
NO. 64 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK.

FOR SALE.

VALUABLE PROPERTY

ON BROADWAY, WILLIAM-ST. AND WASHINGTON-PLACE AT AUCTION—SALE IN PARTITION.

Will be sold by E. H. LUDLOW & CO., Auctioneers, at the Exchange Salesroom, No. 111 Broadway, on MONDAY, March 26, 1866, at 12 o'clock M., the very valuable lot of land, with the first-class marble fore thereon, situated at the southeast corner of Broadway and White-st., known as Nos. 380 and 382 Broadway, running through to Courtland-alley. The lot is 31 feet wide, front and rear, and 178 feet 11 inches deep.

Also, the valuable property No. 37 William-st., between Wall-st. and Exchange-place; lot 26 feet 5 inches front, 18 feet 4 inches in rear, and 90 feet 2 inches deep.

Also, the valuable property situated at the southeast corner of Washington-place and Mercer-st., known as Juliet's Hotel; lot 100 feet on Washington-place, and 49 feet and 9 inches on Mercer-st.

For particulars and maps apply to E. H. LUDLOW & CO., Auctioneers, No. 3 Pine-st.

FOR SALE.

A chance for a few days only. 24 acres of land, $2,500; a fanciful cottage, 7 rooms, very convenient, $3,500; 2 nice cottages, 5 rooms each, $1,350 and $2,250; good gardens, fruit, &c. Hourly trains night and morning to New-York, only 24 miles from City. Immediate possession. Inquire of Mr. FIELDS, No. 90 South-st.

FOR SALE—THE COUNTRY SEAT OF THE late Jacob B. Herrick, situated on the Hunt's Point Road, Westchester County, ten miles from the City Hall, accessible by steamboat, steam and horse cars. There are 14 acres of land, extending to the water, all in a high state of cultivation, with every variety of choice fruit. The buildings, which are nearly new, comprise the dwelling-house, large and replete with every convenience, commanding a fine view of the Sound, adapted for a Winter as well as a Summer residence, having a furnace, heater, double sashes; plumbing throughout, supplying laundry, kitchen, bath-room, &c., &c. Also, a gardener's house, coach-house, barns, all in perfect repair. There is also an ice-pond, ice-house, and a fine well of soft water. A rare opportunity is offered to merchants and others to secure an elegant home. A large part of the purchase-money can remain on mortgage for a term of years. For further particulars apply to

J. HOBART HERRICK, No. 10 South-st.,
or E. H. LUDLOW & CO., No. 3 Pine-st., New-York.

FOR SALE—A BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY SEAT at Throggs's Neck, Westchester County; dwelling double two-story, basement and attic, in perfect order; gardener's cottage, barn, carriage-house and stables, cow sheds and hennery; large garden filled with choice fruits of all kinds, large grapery under glass; extensive lawn, with large shade and ornamental trees; 65 acres of prime land, extensive water front, good fishing; near steamboat landing, only six miles from Harlem Bridge. This is the most desirable property for sale on the Neck. Can be divided into several fine building plots, and is offered for sale much below its real value, to close an estate. Possession very soon. For price, terms and particulars apply to JOHN A. KENYON, or A. D. STEPHENS, No. 83 Nassau-st.

FOR SALE OR LEASE—IN THIS CITY, A building, eligibly situated for business, within two blocks of the East River. The main building is 50x100 feet, with two wings, one of 30, the other of 29 feet front-age; the main building seven stories high, with basement. It contains a first-class new engine and boiler, capacity 100 horse, with power rented to the amount of $3,000 per annum. The main building is heated by steam, with steam pump, hose, &c., and two of Otis' steam hoists running the whole length of the building. The building is lighted front, side and rear. The one wing is a five-story building, with steam hoist. Any manufacturer requiring ample room, power, light and water, will find this most desirable property. For terms apply to H. F. WHITE, Architect, No. 923 Broadway, Room No. 11.

FOR SALE—IN HUNTINGTON VILLAGE, L. I., a house containing 11 rooms, store-room and pantry of quantity; parlors with sliding doors; marble mantels, grates, range and copper boiler, with hot and cold water in the kitchen; carriage and workshop; lot 128x150 feet deep; the place well shaded with locust and pine; plenty of grapes, peaches, &c. Also, a communication by railroad or steamboat. It is a very fine country residence, and will be sold low. For price and all the particulars, inquire of GEORGE COX, 313 Washington-st., N. Y., or of THOS. J. VANSANT, on the premises.

A GENTEEL THREE-STORY AND BASEment high-stoop house, No. 82 Lexington-av., for sale, with or without furniture, all in good order, and neatly fitted up by the owner for his own use; also that nice, new brown-stone front house, No. 82 East 27th-st., near Lexington-av., for sale; all modern improvements and in good order. For letter to see the houses, apply to

JOHN FOLEY, No. 139 Broadway.

DOUBLE HOUSE AND STABLE FOR sale at a bargain, in consequence of the owner leaving for Europe, located on 14th-st., near the Palace Garden, &c.; house 37 feet wide; in perfect order, with all the modern improvements; stable on the rear of the lot; lot 125 feet deep. For further particulars and price, apply to

HOMER MORGAN, No. 2 Pine-st.

FOR SALE—522 LOTS ON NEWTOWN CREEK, having 1,200 feet front on Flushing Railroad and Newtown Creek, suitable for dwellings and factories; accessible by water, and Brooklyn street-cars running near; price in blocks, $150 to $300 a lot, on easy terms, or together less. Apply to S. B. SCHIEFFELIN, No. 170 William-st.

FOR SALE—COUNTRY RESIDENCE AT ASHford, L. I.; dwelling-house, barn, &c., with five acres of land; good garden with plenty of fruit. Pleasantly situated; convenient to the city; half a mile from steamboat landing and ferry. For particulars inquire of CHAS. DE BEVOISE, No. 59 Wall-st.

FOR SALE—AT YONKERS, TWO-STORY AND attic high-stoop brick house, lot 40 by 130 feet, only five minutes' walk from railroad depot, on Warburton-av.; has gas throughout, is well built, slate roof; a very nice house, fine location, and an excellent opportunity if applied for immediately; price $7,500. Apply to SMITH & MEAD, No. 334 6th-av.

FOR SALE—A THREE-STORY, BASEMENT and attic brick house, with all the modern improvements, complete, situated at No. 14 Barrow-st., fronting on Van Voorst-square, Jersey City. Also, two cottage houses on Fairmount-av., South Bergen. Inquire of L. LANDRINE, corner of York and Barrow sts., Jersey City.

A LARGE, ELEGANT RESIDENCE, ALL modern improvements; first-class outbuildings and gardener's cottage; large fine shade trees and fruit of all varieties, shrubbery, &c., in great abundance, with 100 acres highly-cultivated land, beautifully located, fronting on Raritan River, New-Brunswick, for sale very low.

W. P. SEYMOUR, No. 171 Broadway.

FOR SALE—FARM OF 200 ACRES IN NEWJersey, about 26 miles from New-York; large and superior barn; good roomy house, with fine lawn in front; never-failing brook flowing through it; apple and pear orchards; soil excellent, and a superior farm. Apply to R. WILLIAMS, No. 192 Chambers-st., New-York.

A FIRST-CLASS PRIVATE STABLE FOR sale at auction, ample carriage room, second story finished in rooms for coachmen, with every convenience and improvement, on 32d-st., near Broadway; price $12,000—half cash.

DYE & CURTIS, No. 508 6th-av.

FOR SALE—ABOUT ONE ACRE, WITH dwelling of 7 rooms, a cottage of 4 rooms, carriage-house, &c.; large and small fruit in variety; 45 minutes from 27th-st. by New-York and New-Haven Railroad, and about 10 minutes' walk from depot. Price $4,000. Address EDMUND L. SMITH, Portchester, N. Y.

FOR SALE—A SMALL TWO-STORY BASEment house, newly furnished last October; has water, gas and heater; 25 minutes from Fulton-ferry via Myrtle-av. and Broadway cars; price, including furniture, $4,300, part on mortgage; southeast corner of Skillman and Willoughby-av., Brooklyn.

ORANGE, N. J.—VILLAS, VILLA SITES AND farms, a great variety, beautifully situated, one hour from New-York, for sale low. Also, country seats and houses to let for the season or year, by HENRY B. BLACKWELL, No. 59 William-st., New-York, 9 to 11 A. M.; No. 49 Main-st., Orange, 1 to 5 P. M.

FOR SALE—AT NEWTOWN, L. I., ONE HOUR from City Hall, New-York; trains every hour; one-quarter acre; excellent house of 11 rooms, fruits, &c.; beautiful location; in prime condition. Apply to J. HIL ON, No. 367 East Broadway, between 10 and 3 o'clock. Price $3,000.

FOR SALE—A DESIRABLE FOUR-STORY brown-stone high-stoop house, with all the improvements, in 28th-st., between 4th and Lexington avs., 22x55; lot 98 feet 9 inches. Apply to W. P. ESTERBROOK, builder, No. 87 East 28th-st.

FOR SALE OR TO EXCHANGE—FARMS of all sizes and desirable country seats; prices $15,000 to $20,000. Four acres near ferry, on Long Island, $1,200; $200 cash. FREEMAN & EMERSON, No. 206 Broadway.

FARM FOR SALE—A HOME IN THE HIGHlands, opposite West Point, containing about 80 acres, dwelling and buildings in complete repair. For particulars inquire of NEWMAN, ONDERDONK & CAPRON, No. 1,172 Broadway.

FOR SALE—THE THREE-STORY AND BASEment brick houses, high stoop, each about 23x40; lots half the block, Nos. 125 and 127 East 39th-st. Apply to PETER A. H. JACKSON, No. 192 Broadway, from 11 to 12 o'clock, or at No. 53 East 27th-st.

MURRAY HILL.—FOR SALE, A MEDIUMsize, four-story brown-stone house, handsomely frescoed and in good order, with all the modern improvements. Possession given by April 10. Apply at No. 109 East 34th-st., on the premises.

FARM FOR SALE—ON LONG ISLAND, OF sixty acres, fine young peach orchard, 3,000 trees, apple orchard, fine growth of wood, good house and barn, good water. Apply to D. T. CONKLIN, corner of Smith and Atlantic sts., Brooklyn.

TWO GENTEEL COTTAGES FOR SALE —At Port Richmond, Staten Island, one hour across the bay from New-York; with fine shrubbery, gardens, fruit, &c., of the best kinds. Inquire of J. A. MACGUZE, No. 428 Broadway.

FOR SALE—IN WEST 21ST-ST., AT A VERY low price, a four-story high-stoop brown-stone house, either furnished or unfurnished; it is in perfect order. Apply to J. R. EDWARDS, No. 277 West 23d-st.

FOR SALE.—THE TWO VALUABLE LOTS OF ground, with the building, on Walker-st, near Church-st., 50x106. Apply to ALLEN & BROWN, No. 96 Broadway.

SEVERAL DESIRABLE RESIDENCES on Murray Hill and other locations for sale by

ALLEN & BROWN,
No. 96 Broadway.

COTTAGE, STABLE AND ONE ACRE of ground at Inwood, near the depot; splendid view. Inquire of THOMAS VEITCH, No. 115 Nassau-st., Room No. 12.

COTTAGES AND COUNTRY SEATS FOR sale at Fort Washington, Inwood, Spuytenduyvil and Kingsbridge. Inquire of THOMAS VEITCH, No. 115 Nassau-st., Room No. 12.

FOR SALE—AT KINGSBRIDGE, ON THE HARlem, Kingsbridge Residence of Geo. H. Peck, Esq., containing 13 acres. Inquire of THOMAS VEITCH, No. 115 Nassau-st., or on the premises.

FOR SALE—VALUABLE WATER FRONTS, about 13 lots, near Navy-yard, with good dock and front of about 140 feet. For particulars address Box No. 5,695 Post-office.

GREENWOOD CEMETERY—A LOT AND vault substantially built, in the finest part of the cemetery, never been used, inclosed by an iron railing; or sale cheap. Apply at No. 71 Broadway, Room No. 60.

FOR SALE—AT NEWTOWN, L. I., ABOUT SEVen acres of land, with a double two-story frame house, barn, &c. For further particulars apply to S. S. RIKER, No. 150 Nassau-st., New-York.

WEST 25TH-ST., NO. 148, BETWEEN 6TH AND 7TH AVS. FOR SALE—First-class four-story English basement house; lot 16 feet by 50 feet; at 105. Inquire of WM. C. COLT, No. 125 West 32d-st.

FOR SALE—THE FIRST-CLASS BROWNstone houses and lots Nos. 45, 47 and 49 West 39th-st., between 5th and 6th avs., splendidly finished with rosewood doors, &c. W. FANNING, No. 37 West 39th-st.

FOR SALE OR LEASE—A LARGE BUILDing, suitable for a manufactory of any kind; 20-horse steam-engine, hoist, &c., on the premises. Apply to H. F. WHITE, No. 923 Broadway, Room No. 11.

FOR SALE—THE TWO-STORY AND BASEment house (frame filled in with brick) on 4th-av., between 84th and 85th sts., near Central Park. Price, $4,500. Inquire of ALLEN & BROWN, No. 96 Broadway.

FOR SALE—HOUSE AND LOT, NO. 9 GRAMercy Park, East 20th-st. 26.8x92. For further particulars apply to A. T. BROWN, No. 74 Wall-st.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE—A FINE country seat, situated at Jamaica. Apply to AARON A. DEGRAUW, No. 242 South-st.

BROOKLYN HOUSES FOR SALE AND to rent. Apply to BENEDICT & CO., 32 Pine-st.

FOR SALE.

ALLEN & BROWN,
No. 96 Broadway,
OFFER FOR SALE THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY:

Lot on Spring-st, near Mercer, 25x100.
Lot on Greene-st., near Houston, 100x100.
Lot on Greene-st., near Prince, 25x100.
Lot on Mercer-st., near Spring, 25x100.
Lot on Laurens-st., near Canal-st., 69x100.
Lot cor. of Broome and Prince sts., 25x100.
Lots on Spring-st., forming an L on Mercer-st., each lot 25x75.

All the above lots have buildings on them.

Also, a number of other desirable pieces of property.

FOR SALE—A VALUABLE COUNTRY RESIdence on Long Island Sound, about 21 miles from New-York by the New-Haven Railroad; the improvements consist of a large double house, containing 16 rooms, two large barns, carriage, summer and wash houses and other outbuildings, fish-pond, &c., with about 44 acres of choice land, with plenty of fruit and shade trees. The view from this place of Long Island Sound is unsurpassed.

For further particulars apply to

ALLEN & BROWN,
No. 96 Broadway.

FOR SALE—IN BROOKLYN, A LARGE THREEstory brick house, with handsome basement dining-room, very large kitchen and laundry attached; back stairs, &c.; situated in Summit-st., adjoining that beautiful location, Int-place; the parlor extension room, and those on the second and third floors, are not often equaled by apparently larger houses in any location. Apply to the agent, JOHN S. O'SULLIVAN, No. 44 Lawrence-st., Brooklyn. N. B.—The owner being about to leave the city, will allow the property to be sold for $6,800. A desirable opportunity.

FOR SALE.—COUNTRY SEAT AT IRVINGTON, on the Hudson; 12 rooms, modern improvements, nearly 4 acres land, shade and ornamental trees, choicest kind of fruit, gardener's Gothic cottage, carriage house, stable and barn, high commanding location, splendid river view; five minutes' walk from depot, and landing. Price $25,000. Apply to S. BROWN, Office Seaman's Friend, No. 80 Wall-st.

$18,500 FINE AND NEWLY FURnished four-story basement brown-stone houses, 17x55-100, in complete order, finely located on Murray Hill. Also, a pretty three-story high-stoop brown-stone house, 15x39-100, on West 53d-st., $9,000.

W. P. SEYMOUR, No. 171 Broadway.

2,300 ACRES OF PINE AND OAK TIMber LANDS FOR SALE—Near Canal, Delaware River and Bay, within 110 miles from New-York. Call on or address L. C. G. ESHINKA, American Hotel, Broadway and 8th-st.

FOUR-STORY HEAVY BROWN-STONE English basement house, most desirably located on West 34th-st.; modern finish; all improvements. Price, $14,500. Half can remain, if desired.

FISH & BLIVEN, No. 544 Broadway.

A FARM OF 47 ACRES FOR SALE—Half a mile from Central Railroad of New-Jersey. Address Mrs. PAXTON, City Post-office, or apply to W. BOARD, Minford Station.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE—FIRST-CLASS farm, near New-York, for residence in Brooklyn or vicinity; pay part cash. SMITH BROTHERS, No. 139 Broadway.

FOR SALE—COTTAGE AND 26 LOTS IN THE best part of Ravenswood, opposite Central Park; valuable river frontage. ENOCH ARMITAGE, No. 34 John-st., Room No. 2.

FOR SALE—IN ORANGE, N. J., A HOUSE 34 BY 36; also, a garden 45 by 134; good well, &c. J. BAYLEY, No. 86 John st.

TO LET.

TO LET—ON BROOME-ST., NEAR BROADWAY the first and second stories of No. 435 Broome-st., for business purposes. Apply to JAMES M. TAYLOR, No. 37 Pine-st.

TO RENT FURNISHED—A HOUSE ON the 5th-av., on liberal terms, to a careful responsible tenant. Address W., Box No. 4,565 Post-office.

TO LET—TWO HOUSES SITUATE IN HUDSON City, known as the estate of James Harrison; they have been lately fitted up with all the recent improvements; are supplied with gas and water; cars pass every 15 minutes; between the Five Corners and the Jersey City Ferries. House No. 1 contains 14 rooms, and the tenant can have about 14 acres of grass, together with a large assortment of apple, pear and cherry trees; a good barn, Summer-house and ice-house, &c.; this will either be let with or without. House No. 2 contains six rooms, and is supplied with gas and water; terms and prices, apply to HENRY HARRISON, No. 115 Bedford-st., New-York; or to JOSEPH MCADOO, on the premises. Part of the 14 acres to be kept for meadow, and about an acre can be put under crop.

TO LET—A FINE COUNTRY RESIDENCE, furnished, at Cornwall, Orange County, two miles from steamboat landing; beautifully situated, having a splendid view of the river; house contains nine rooms, with observatory and piazza. For further particulars, apply to WILLIAM BLOOMER, on the premises, or of I. M. MERRITT, No. 49 Beaver-st.

TO LET—NO. 1,238 BROADWAY, NEAR 26TH-st., the second, third and fourth stories and basements; brown-stone, modern improvements; would be let for light business purposes; desirable location—opposite St. Nazaire, and close to Fifth-avenue, Hoffman and Albermarle Hotels; three years' lease. Apply only to W. J. COCHRAN, No. 839 Broadway.

TO LET—PARTLY FURNISHED, A PLEASANTly located dwelling-house at Flushing, L. I. Shrubbery, fruit and ornamental trees on the place, which is retired, yet within five minutes' walk of depot. Will rent for six months at $175 per month. Apply to C. P. FRAME, No. 75 Liberty-st., New-York.

TO MANUFACTURERS.—TO LET, WITH steam power, in Brooklyn, the large building Nos. 199 and 201 Water-st., 50x150; will let the entire building, four floors, to parties wanting 60-horse power or more; or will let in floors or half-floors, to suit. Apply on the premises, or to H. W. GREEN, No. 13 Spruce-st., N. Y.

TO LET—IMMEDIATE POSSESSION, THE splendid four-story brown-stone house, No. 29 West 45th-st.; has been finished four months; the neighborhood all built up with first-class houses and very desirable. Apply to RICHARD WILLIAMSON, at Bull's Head Bank.

TO LET—FOR THE SUMMER MONTHS A large double house, fully furnished, with 5 acres of land, barns and stable, fine grapery and plenty of fruit, situated at Throg's Neck. Apply to JOHN A. KENYON or A. D. STEPHENS, No. 83 Nassau-st.

A NEW BRIGHTON, HAMILTON PARK A.—Tavern, four furnished and unfurnished Winter and Summer first-class brick houses, with gas, water, baths, stables, gardens, lawn and woodland; 5 minutes of ferry. Mr. HAMILTON, No. 152 Broadway.

FURNISHED HOUSE TO LET IN MIL-Ford, Conn., on the line of the New-York and New-Haven Railroad; would prefer to let for six (6) months from 1st of May. For particulars inquire of CORNWALL & ZEREGA, No. 134 Pearl-st., New-York.

TO LET—FROM MAY 1, SIX THREE-STORY brick houses, Nos. 241 to 246, 260 West 13th-st.; rent $1,000 each. Also, a first-class brown-stone house, No. 354 West 32d-st., at $1,800 rent. Apply to

ROBERT USHER, Jr., No. 238 West 34th-st.

DWELLING-HOUSE TO LET—THE FIRSTclass three-story brick house No. 129 West 18th-st., for a private residence only, with all the modern improvements. For cards of admission, apply to JAMES N. GIFFORD, No. 101 Water-st., from 12 to 3½ P. M.

FURNISHED HOUSE TO LET—ON EAST 17th-st., opposite Stuyvesant-square; rent $2,500 per year. For tickets to view premises, address HAGGERTY & BEELES, No. 6,926 Post-office. (After 1st April, at No. 11 Pine-st.)

BROADWAY PROPERTY TO LET OR LEASE.—Store and basement No. 634 Broadway; second and third floors Nos. 634, 636 and 638 Broadway, separate or together. Apply to C. WITTY, Carriage Warerooms, No. 638 Broadway.

TO LET—IN THE VILLAGE OF NYACK, A neat two-story and attic frame dwelling-house, in good order, with good cellar and kitchen attached; rent $350. Apply to F. TILLOU, No. 1 Nassau-st., New-York.

TO LET—THREE UPPER STORIES OF A NEW building, about 50x90 feet, well lighted; new steam engine and boilers on the premises. Inquire at Nos. 16 and 18 COCKESHAUSEN BROS.

COUNTRY RESIDENCE TO RENT FURnished.—A large house of some 16 rooms on the north shore of Long Island, 20 miles from New-York. Apply to HOMER MORGAN, No. 2 Pine-st.

TO LET—AT WHITESTONE, LONG ISLAND, an unfurnished house and seven acres of land, with good barn and stables and a good apple orchard and garden. ROBERT HAYDOCK, No. 101 Liberty-st.

TO LEASE FOR A TERM OF YEARS—Unimproved lots on Washington-st., between Franklin and Harrison sts. Apply to FREDERICK CLARKSON, No. 54 Wall-st.

STEAM POWER TO LET.—A FIRST FLOOR and basement; also, lofts on Canal-street, opposite Earle's Hotel, and near Broadway.

Apply to F. J. INSLEE, No. 102 Walker-st.

TO LET—IN HARLEM, ON 123D AND 124TH STS., between 5th and 6th avs., two frame cottages, each with three lots of ground; rent, $250 each. Apply to J. ROMAINE BROWN, No. 1,276 Broadway.

TO LET—AT YONKERS, A SMALL FURNISHED cottage, delightfully located, five minutes from Glenwood Depot. For particulars, inquire or address WM. OKELL, No. 680 Broadway.

TO LET, FURNISHED—THE DESIRABLE house, No. 9 East 30th-st., in complete order; possession immediate, or 1st of May. Apply to DYE & CURTISS, No. 508 6th-av.

TO LET AND FOR SALE—HOUSES IN New-York, Brooklyn, all parts of Jersey, Morrisania and Westchester County. FREEMAN & EMERSON, No. 206 Broadway.

TO LET.—FIRST FLOOR, NO. 1,273 BROADway, corner 32d-st., for a light business; dentistry preferred; rent $50 per month. Apply in the drug-store.

FURNISHED AND UNFURNISHED Houses to rent; desirable locations. Apply to BENEDICT & CO., No. 32 Pine-st.

TO LET—FOR SIX MONTHS, AN ELEGANTLY furnished house in a most desirable location up town. Address at the office of the Times, New-York.

TO LET—THE DESIRABLE HOUSE NO. 17 East 37th-st., between Madison and 5th avs. Apply to H. K. CORNING, SON & CO., No. 84 South-st.

OFFICES TO LET—FROM MAY 1, AT NO. 18 William-st.

SUMMER RESIDENCE TO RENT—A furnished cottage at Pittsfield, Mass., from May 1. Address G. C., Box No. 75 New-York Post-office.

TO LET—WHOLE OR PART OF THE TWOstory and attic house No. 52 Lispenard-st., near Church. Apply as above.

AT NEW-ROCHELLE—SMALL COTTAGE on the water; rent $250. Apply at No. 97 East Houston-st.

STORE TO LET—NO 46 HUDSON-ST. APply to T. H. RODMAN, No. 54 William-st.

MACHINERY.

FOR SALE—AT A LOW FIGURE, TWO SHODDY machines and fixer, shafting, pullies, belts, &c., all in perfect working order; steam power can be had if desired; also room. Address SPRINGMEYER BROS., No. 722 Broadway, New-York.

A BARGAIN.—TO BE SOLD CHEAP. A GOOD 4 6-horse power steam-engine, with boiler. Apply to JAMES G. MOFFET, No. 119 Prince-st.

COAL.

$8.75.—BEST QUALITY WHITE ASH coal, egg size, $8 75; stove size, $9 25 per ton of 2,000 lbs., delivered, well screened, from under cover; Scranton nut, $7 75 per ton; also, oak wood at $3 50 per load, delivered from yard. Nos. 3 and 5 Oak-st., corner New Bowery. GEO. W. BENNETT.

FIRST QUALITY COAL—NUT SIZE, $7 75; Stove, $9; Egg, $8 83 per ton. GEORGE R. BOND, No. 79 Nassau-st., Room 13, and 53 Orchard, cor. Grand.

DRY GOODS.

GREAT BARGAINS

will be offered on MONDAY, from the heavy auction sales of last week, comprising

BLACK AND COLORED SILKS,
in PLAIN STRIPES, CHECKS, CORDED CHINE, from $1 upward.
Also,
PRINTED FOULARD PARIS POPLINS,
and other desirable DRESS GOODS.
Also,
BROCHE SHAWLS, in all qualities.
LLMA LACE POINTS, in White and Black.
REAL SHETLAND SHAWLS,
LACE CURTAINS less than gold costs.

STRANG & ADRIANCE,
No. 355 Broadway.

NO MORE HIGH PRICES.

T. M. JAMES,
No. 102 6th-av., near 8th-st.,

will offer on Monday, March 19, 10,000 yards English and American prints, warranted fast colors, at 12½ cents per yard; sold last week at 25 cents; 5 cases yard-wide long cloths at 25 cents per yard; sold last week at 40 cents; 8,000 yards twilled and Russia crash at 12½ cents per yard. Great many other goods might be named at equally low prices. Call early and examine for yourselves.

LEGRAIN'S.

Just received, a full line of ladies' and gents'
ANGELE KID GLOVES,
single and double button, splendid Spring shades.
LEGRAIN,
No. 729 Broadway.

GREAT DECLINE IN DRY GOODS.

OLD STOCKS ONLY WORTH
50 CENTS ON THE DOLLAR!
ANTICIPATING THIS PANIC, WE
HAVE OUR GOODS SLIDE;
AND WE ARE NOW IN THE
FIELD WITH A
NEW STOCK AT NEW PRICES,
SO CLEAR THE TRACK FOR BARGAINS.

BEST MERRIMACK PRINTS,	22 CTS.
OTHER MERCHANTS CHARGE	25 CTS.
BEST DE LAINES, ONLY	22 CTS.
OTHER STORES CHARGE	28 CTS.
ALL WOOL FLANNEL,	31 CTS.
NEW DRESS GOODS,	22 CTS.
NEW PINKS,	31 CTS.
BEAUTIFUL DRESS GOODS,	37½ CTS.

REMEMBER, OLD STOCKS WORTH
ONLY 50 CENTS ON THE DOLLAR!

OUR GOODS ALL NEW AND CHEAP.

FINE ALPACAS, 37 AND 40 CTS.	
VERY FINE DELAINES,	31 CTS.
HANDSOME SPRING GINGHAMS,	
ALL WOOL CASSIMERES, 50 AND 75 CTS.	
HANDSOME CASSIMERES, 31 AND 37½ CTS.	
BLACK AND WHITE POPLINS,	37½ CTS.
BLACK AND WHITE POPDINS,	50 CTS.

WHERE IS THERE ANOTHER STOCK
THAT CAN SHOW THESE PRICES?
GREAT SALE OF MUSLINS

AT 20 CTS.	REGULAR PRICE 25 CTS.
AT 25 CTS.	REGULAR PRICE 33 CTS.
AT 28 CTS.	WORTH 35 CTS.
AT 31 CTS.	WORTH 40 CTS.
AT 36 CTS.	FORMERLY SOLD AT 45 CTS.

We call particular attention to this sale. The prices will be found exactly as advertised, and the goods are of the first quality. Our Muslins are sold at about cost, enabling all to buy cotton goods cheap for cash. Remember; No old stock.

BUY YOUR MUSLINS OF US,
AND SAVE 8 CTS A YARD.
BUY YOUR DRESS GOODS OF US,
AND SAVE 20 CTS. A YARD.
FOR BARGAINS GO TO FOSTER BROS.,
272 BLEECKER ST., CORNER COMMERCE.

FROM AUCTION.

We will open on MONDAY
A GREAT VARIETY OF
FANCY SILKS
AND
DRESS GOODS

purchased at last week's auction sales, thirty per cent. under the COST OF IMPORTATION, the greatest bargains we have had for several years.

JAMES A. HEARN & SON,
No. 775 Broadway, above 9th-st.

FROM AUCTION.

NEW SHAWLS
IN GREAT VARIETY.

We will open on MONDAY an elegant assortment of WHITE and SCARLET PAISLEY SHAWLS, purchased at the recent auction sales, much under the cost of importation.

Also,
An elegant assortment of
WHITE GRENADINE SHAWLS.

JAMES A. HEARN & SON,
No. 775 Broadway, above 9th-st.

GREAT CRASH IN SILKS

AT T. M. JAMES',
No. 102 6th-av., near 8th-st.

Rich Plaid Spring Silks at $1 per yard, worth 12s. Superb black and white check Silks at $1 50 per yard, worth $2. Splendid lot of rich Taffeta Silks, in all colors, at $1 50 to $1 75 per yard. Also, real oil boiled black Silk for $1 25 per yard, worth $1 75.

Ladies will find these goods 25 per cent. below Broadway prices.

It is cheering to note the change when we have no old goods at high prices.

LARGE AUCTION SALES OF
DRESS GOODS, SHAWLS AND LINEN
have been held last week, and goods have been fearfully slaughtered.

ADOLF KUSTER, NO. 225 8TH-AV.,

having bought several large invoices at the above sales, offers TO-MORROW, and for the week,
THE GREATEST BARGAINS
within the recollection of the oldest inhabitant of New-York. Every lady should go and see them, either to supply herself and family, or satisfy herself that the above statement is literally true. By all means go and see the bargains.

Also, great attractions in all kinds of domestic goods, all marked down to meet the market.

ADOLF KUSTER, No. 225 8th-av.

DRESS GOODS! DRESS GOODS!

AT OLD PRICES! AT OLD PRICES!
A magnificent line of very rich Poplins and ALPACAS, in all the new Spring colors, which we are selling AT 31c.; WORTH, A SHORT TIME SINCE, 50c.
Also, just received, from auction two large lots of both plain and plaid Cheney POPLINS, which we shall offer at 37½c.; WORTH, TWO WEEKS AGO, 75c.
Also, BLACK and COLORED ALPACAS,
AT 37½c., WORTH 50c.
AT 30c., WORTH 62½c.
AT 62½c., WORTH 75c.
AT 75c., WORTH 90c.

Most of these goods are from the recent auction sales, where they have been sold without any regard to cost. We shall offer them at a very slight advance, and thus afford all an opportunity of buying DRESS GOODS AT OLD PRICES! AT OLD PRICES!

FOSTER & WELSH, No. 227 8th-av., near 22d-st.

A. T. STEWART & CO.,
will offer at retail on
MONDAY, MARCH 19,
a large lot of
ENGLISH TAPESTRY BRUSSELS CARPET,
at the extremely low price of
ONE DOLLAR AND A HALF PER YARD.
Broadway and 10th-st.

REAL BLACK CHANTILLY
D'AIGUILLE AND APPLIQUE
POINTS, ROTONDES,
VEILS, PARASOLS, &c.,
in new and elegant designs.

A. T. STEWART & CO.,
Broadway and 10th-st.

A. T. STEWART & CO.

HAVE POPULARIZED THE PRICES OF
EVERY DESCRIPTION OF DRESS GOODS
IN THEIR RETAIL DEPARTMENT,
COMPRISING
THE LARGEST, RICHEST, AND
MOST ELEGANT ASSORTMENT,
NOW IN THE CITY.
Purchasers are respectfully invited to examine.
Broadway and 10th-st.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

We have just received from auction, and per late steamers, a splendid stock of SPRING and SUMMER GOODS; some great novelties and SPLENDID BARGAINS.

N. B.—100 pieces finest ENGLISH MOURNING PRINTS at 25c. per yard; COLORADA, EMPRESS and CRAPE CLOTH at 37½c. per dress. HANDSOME GOODS, and very serviceable.

W. JACKSON, Importer of Mourning Goods,
No. 551 Broadway, opposite Tiffany & Co.'s.

MOURNING BONNETS.

A very large and handsome stock of SPRING STYLES in every variety, now open for inspection. Prices very reasonable.

N. B.—ENGLISH AND FRENCH BOMBAZINES, DE LAINES, TAMISE CLOTH, BUSHTRE AND SPANISH CRAPES, CRAPE MARETZ, CHALLI CLOTH, TAMARTINES, GRENADINES AND GRENADINE BAREGES, FLORENTINES AND ARGENTINES, CRAPE VEILS, CRAPE HANDKERCHIEFS, SETS, &c., at prices to suit the most economical.

JACKSON'S MOURNING STORE,
No. 551 Broadway, between Spring and Prince sts.

BLACK ALPACAS—BLACK ALPACAS.

We offer a very superior make and finish, at 62½c., 75c., 87½c. and $1—PURE MOHAIR DEMI LUSTRE. Ladies requiring such goods should take a look at our stock before purchasing elsewhere.

W. JACKSON, Importer, No. 551 Broadway.
Between Spring and Prince sts., opposite Tiffany & Co.'s.

"AND HERE WE GO, DOWN, DOWN, DOWN."

200 DOZEN DOLLAR KID GLOVES
closing at 50 cents a pair, worth $1.
VALENTINE & CO.'S, No. 12 4th-av.

DRESS GOODS.

2,000 YARDS POIL DE CHEVRES AT 20c. A YARD.
Fine French Gingham Lawns at 35 cents, at
VALENTINE & CO.'S, No. 12 4th-av.

PARASOLS—LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S,
NEW STYLES PARASOLS, JUST IN, AT
VALENTINE & CO.'S, No. 12 4th-av.

THIRTY-SIX YARD PIECES BLACK ALPACA BRAID,

For $1 a piece. New lot and just in, at
VALENTINE & CO.'S, No. 12 4th-av.

GENTS' ENAMELED PAPER COLLARS.

GENTS' WHITE AND COLORED TIES.
GENTS' SHIRTS, DRAWERS, COLLARS, CUFFS, GUARDS, UNDERWEAR, GLOVES AND HOSIERY, cheap, at
VALENTINE & CO.'S, No. 12 4th-av.

TO GENTLEMEN.

A new stock of most desirable imported Spring goods, both plain and fancy, for garments to order at moderate prices. Mr. WOLFF, merchant tailor, No. 668 Broadway, corner of Prince-st.

ELGER'S CHEAP STORE.—NEW GOODS at reduced prices; ribbons, trimmings, laces, embroideries, linen handkerchiefs, collars, sets, Glossy lace, magic ruffings, frillings, edgings, French and German corsets, shirts, new styles, of the best makers. Nos. 880 and 882 Broadway, near 19th-st., east side. N. B.—English brushes, scissors and small wares.

GEORGE KEYES, NO. 343 8TH-AV., WILL offer on Monday new black and plain colored Silks, new Dress Goods, new Alpacas, new Shawls, new Cloaks, new Prints, new Ginghams, &c., all suitable for Spring trade.

GREAT BARGAINS IN SHEETING, SHIRTING AND PRINTS, AT LAMBERTS, No. 523 Greenwich-st. The best heavy sheeting at 28c.; very heavy Shirting at 25c.; the very best quality, equally fine as Wamsutta, for 30c.

DRY GOODS.

GRENADINES, ORGANDIES, LAWNS, Percales, Printed Linens, French and English Prints, Russia and Dublin Poplins, Alpacas, Printed Mohairs, Delaines, Barages, Embroidered Silk Tissues, &c., &c., and every variety of

FASHIONABLE DRESS GOODS
At retail,
LORD & TAYLOR,
Nos. 461 to 467 BROADWAY,
Nos. 255 to 261 GRAND-ST.,
Nos. 47 and 49 CATHARINE-ST.

UPHOLSTERY DEPARTMENT.

Large additions have been made to our upholstery department, and we are now prepared to execute orders in all its branches.

LACE CURTAINS, DRAPERIES,

Broadels, reps, printed lastings, chintzes, furniture coverings, damask, cornices, tassels, bands and fixtures of every kind,

BELOW REGULAR PRICES.
LORD & TAYLOR,
Nos. 461 to 467 BROADWAY,
Nos. 255 to 261 GRAND-ST.,
Nos. 47 and 49 CATHARINE-ST.

RICH LACES AND EMBROIDERIES.

Latest designs at retail.
LORD & TAYLOR,
Nos. 461 to 467 BROADWAY,
Nos. 255 to 261 GRAND-ST.,
Nos. 47 and 49 CATHARINE-ST.

MOURNING GOODS FOR SPRING.

A full assortment at Retail.
LORD & TAYLOR,
Nos. 461 to 467 BROADWAY,
Nos. 255 to 261 GRAND-ST.
Nos. 47 and 49 CATHARINE-ST.

BLACK, COLORED AND FANCY
SILKS, IN GREAT VARIETY,
FOR SPRING,
AT RETAIL.
LORD & TAYLOR,
Nos. 461 to 467 BROADWAY,
Nos. 255 to 261 GRAND-ST.
Nos. 47 and 49 CATHARINE-ST.

SPRING SHAWLS, CLOAKINGS,
CLOTHS,
CASSIMERES, &c., at retail.
LORD & TA

EUROPEAN INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVAL OF THE AFRICA'S MAILS.

English and American Shipbuilding—Skewh of the French Legislative Chambers—Buried Alive—The Search for Stephens in Ireland—Interesting Miscellany.

The mails by the steamer *Africa* reached this City last night

The English and American Navies Compared.

From the London Telegraph, March 2.

There has grown up on the other side of the Atlantic a brawny young giant—blood of our blood and bone of our bone—who carried with him to the rock-bound coasts where the Pilgrim Fathers landed the same Scandinavian blood that makes England the greatest among maritime nations. Backed by the resources of a continent upon which the Creator has lavished in matchless prodigality every gift conducive to the highest civilization, our Transatlantic sons seem animated with no other desire, fired by no other aspiration than to try conclusions and measure strength with us upon what we have hitherto loved to call our own element. Hence the vital importance of abandoning comparisons with France, in order to watch with jealous vigilance the gigantic strides made by our American cousins within four brief years, and gunboat since the cessation of hostilities, nearly eleven months ago, without suspended effort or materially abated expenditure.

We hear it asserted—we hope without truth—that no naval attaché has ever been accredited to our Legation at Washington. It is too much the fashion in England, because America is a long way off, and is to ninety-nine hundreds of Englishmen all but a terra incognita, to think that she has nothing to teach us. From so suicidal a delusion we shall probably be sooner or later roughly awakened. Be this as it may, we are indebted to Capt. WILLIAM HORTON, an active and experienced Captain in the Royal Navy, for throwing much light upon the strength of the United States naval marine, upon the class of ships which they are building, and upon the intelligent vigilance with which they watch every English detail, and apply or reject every English invention. It would have been encouraging if Lord CLARENCE had, in his speech of last Monday night, given any evidence of his cognizance of the fact that there is such a country in existence as America. Our gratitude is, on this account, all the greater for the lecture "On the necessity for building unarmored vessels of war" which Capt. HORTON recently delivered at the Royal United Service Institution, and for the remarks which Sir MORTON PETO made upon the subject in the House of Commons last night. Sir MORTON affirmed that in America he had seen turret-ships which, for purposes of harbor defence, were the best he had ever witnessed. He also complained that we gave too little scope for the judgment of those private builders to whom we committed the construction of vessels of war; and, not unreasonably, he was in favor of appointing a committee to inquire into the whole matter. On the other hand, Capt. HORTON's lecture shows that, while we treat the rapidly growing navy of America with lordly indifference, American makes it her business to keep an vigilant an eye upon our nautical doings as Lord CLARENCE PAGET himself. The pamphlets and letters upon English and American vessels which Mr. DONALD MCKAY, a well-known shipbuilder of New-York, has recently written, are well calculated to wound our vanity and arouse our vigilance. With every abatement for exaggeration, there is enough in Mr. MCKAY's intimation that one single vessel, the *Durderberg*, is a match for the whole English navy, to arrest attention, if not to excite alarm. Mr. MCKAY tells us that at the opening of the war the American war-navy numbered 42 steamers of 49,700 tons; and that at its close it numbered 558 steamers, with an aggregate tonnage of 467,000 tons. "Out of these 558 steamers," adds Mr. MCKAY, "two hundred vessels, aggregating 241,000 tons, were built by the Navy Department. In no country, with such limited means, and under such difficult circumstances, has there ever been put afloat in the same time such an immense naval armament. Certainly it cannot be said that in the time of trial the Navy Department has been found wanting." We have not space to make further extracts from Mr. MCKAY's letters, which we heartily commend to the notice of Lord CLARENCE PAGET and of Mr. REED. But in addition to the high speed sought in American ships, to the immense caliber of the guns they carry, and to the ceaseless activity and enterprise of their builders, we learn from Mr. MCKAY that our cousins have perfected an apparatus for swinging out torpedoes from the yardarms of their vessels to be exploded by electricity upon the decks or under the bows of hostile ships possessing inferior speed. Without raising sensational alarms, we have said enough to indicate that neither France, Russia, Italy, Spain, nor all those countries combined, are the maritime competitors whom we have occasion to dread. It is not reassuring to remark that while Lord CLARENCE PAGET and but ignores America, the Chief Constructor of the Navy, Mr. E. J. REED, seemed disposed, in the conversation which followed the recent lecture, to dispute at the accuracy of Capt. HORTON's facts, rather than to answer his arguments. Simultaneously, we are assured on all hands that the ships to which the mysterious reconstruction of our navy has given birth are far from having realized the speed at which Mr. REED aimed. Mr. REED may or may not be a very clever man, but in a matter of such vital moment as the maritime ascendancy of England, it is appalling to think that our Admiralty has put all its eggs into one basket, and by reposing a blind and absurd confidence in Mr. REED is riding out the gale in single anchor.

Sketch of the French Legislative Chamber.

Paris Correspondent of the Pall Mall Gazette.

The hall in which the Deputies meet is the same as that in which they used to assemble under the monarchy of July. It is semi-circular in shape, and has accommodation for four or five hundred members. The legislature, which under the Second Republic, which was more numerous, sat in a large hall improvised for the occasion in the court, at the back of the palace, which was therefore nicknamed *la salle de carton*. In addressing the House, the deputies no longer mount the tribune, but speak from their own places. Fortunately, the chamber is well adapted for hearing, and only a very thin or feeble voice fails to reach the ears of the audience. The President, seated on high, overlooking all the rest, from his conspicuous position, naturally attracts the first glance of the visitor. Indeed, in the Duke de Morny's time, the ladies used to be more occupied in watching the President than in listening to the debate, while the Duke, on his part, was always provided with an opera glass to scan the fair spectators. Count Walewski is much less impressive in appearance than his predecessor. He is not without elegance, but it strikes you as artificial and dandified. His features (he is unmistakably of the Napoleonic type, his reputed parentage is well known,) but rather feeble and faded. As he passes through the double file of soldiers, who present arms in his honor, on his way to the Chamber, between two and three in the afternoon, the usual hour of meeting, he marches as if impressed with the dignity of his position, but the grand air fades off after he has been a little while on his throne, and he lounges through the rest of the sitting undisguisedly bored and *blasé*. He does not preside according to the traditions of the office, joining smartly and impressively in the debates, schooling the Deputies as MORNY did, like a pedagogue with his pupils—now awing them by a sharp rebuke or grave reminder, now indulging in half contemptuous banter, or firing off an epigram. During the second sitting of this year he was moved to reply by some hard hits at the irregularity of his position. Twice he half rose as if to speak, but hesitated, and then sank back into his seat. It is too much exertion for him even to ring his bell—the symbol of presidential authority. When there is any disorder he gets the ushers to call for silence. Usually soft and good-natured in his manners, he is apt to lose command of himself when really irritated. On the whole it is doubtful whether the Government made a prudent choice in committing the guidance and control of an assembly, by no means so tractable as it used to be, to such hands. To-day he had a curious encounter with M. GLAIS-BIZOIN. The speaker, discussing the Mexican question, said that the Empire was supported only by bayonets. The President, waking from a sort of doze, caught the word "empire," and thought it was the French one that was meant. So he rebuked the orator for the stigma he had thrown on it, while a score of voices pointed out the error. "Oh! I see!" said M. WALEWSKI, sinking back into his seat.

Although the President, from his position, arrests attention, as it were, the first person whom the eye of the visitor seeks out among the throng of Deputies is almost certain to be M. THIERS. There he is—a small man, rather thick for his height, with a solid-looking, square, intellectual head, covered with short white hair; cheeks whiskerless, complexion florid, mouth firm set but delicate, and the square chin full of force and determination. His speeches, announced long before they are delivered, just as an important piece is "underlined" at the theatre, are expected with impatient curiosity. There is always a keen contest for orders to the strangers' galleries for the day when it is advertised he will speak, and those who are fortunate enough to obtain admission rejoice as over a prize in a rich lottery. The position he held under the monarchy secures him the sympathy of the Conservatives, the "old parties," while his "History of the Consulate and Empire" gains him a respectful hearing from even the most enthusiastic *chauvins*. Besides, his powers as an orator are sufficient to command attention alike from those who listen with delight to the eloquent expression of sentiments in which they concur, and from those who sit in nervous apprehension of another stroke of that trenchant tongue. There is something really fascinating in the clearness with which he explains questions which are little understood by the majority of his colleagues, and scarcely at all by the public. His speech, rapid without being crude or indistinct, is somewhat *cirarde* and monotonous in tone: but there is as much variety in his style, such ease in his delivery, he is so pleasantly familiar and yet spirited, or, when occasion warrants, fervent, that the listener yields to the charm in spite of himself—in fact, it is like the spell of a seductive conversation. If, at first, the high-pitched tones of the voice sound rather unmusically, you soon forget to notice this as he proceeds. Even in the height of his most oratorical passages he never loses his perfect ease and naturalness of manner. M. THIERS' powers of endurance are very remarkable. He can speak for three or four hours on the most difficult and complicated subjects without betraying any indication of serious fatigue. Once in the hour, perhaps, he will take a little sip of claret, which he substitutes for the customary *eau sucrée*. In 1847, M. THIERS, in the discussion on the Spanish marriages, spoke for nearly seven hours without stopping, and without any movement of impatience being shown by an assembly, the majority of whom held opinions quite adverse to those he was defending. M. THIERS has taken his old place in the left centre of the Chamber, but the interest with which he is regared is due rather to his historical position, his literary fame, and oratorical power, than to his rank as a representative politician.

Hitherto the Chamber has been composed of a large ministerial majority, blindly devoted to the Government, whose creatures for the most part they were—men, as a rule, capable of showing their attachment to the Empire in no more articulate manner than by cheering an official orator or coughing down a Democrat; and a small minority in opposition, which atoned for its insignificance in size by its earnestness and ability, but too often wasted the force thus derived in mere abstract declamation and unpractical attacks on the Government. There have been signs during the last year that a third party, composed of elements detached from the other two, was gradually crystallizing into shape, and this session it has proclaimed its existance by a formal programme. This new section, which is as yet only half solidified, is probably destined to influence the destinies of Constitutionalism in France in a very important manner. It will depend upon the attitude which the Government assumes toward it what development it will assume—whether it will maintain an enlightened but critical support of the Empire, or tend in the direction of opposition pure and simple.

A Scene in the French Chamber.

During the debate on the address in the Corps Legislatif on the 22d ult., M. GLAIS BIZOIN made a laughable speech, amid great interruption from the members favorable to the Government. At length M. ROUHER, Minister of State, declared the address of M. BIZOIN was a "pasquinade." Hereupon, the official report says, there were loud protests from the members near M. GLAIS BIZOIN, while numerous voices exclaimed, "It is true! Very good, very good!" and M. GARNIER PAGES called the Minister to order. The proceedings which followed are thus given in the *Moniteur*:

M. JULES SIMON—Yes. Order. It is disgraceful that a member should be treated in this manner. It is an insult to the country. There is no longer any discussion. [General excitement.]

M. DIDIER (approaching the Government benches)—You were quite right, Sir (to the Minister).

M. EUGENE PELLETAN (to the President)—We formally request you to call the Minister to order. [Several members—"It is you who should be called to order."]

M. EMILE OLLIVIER—The Minister has no right to describe the words of a speaker as he has done.

M. PIOCHON—Is the Government to be insulted as it has been? We do not respect ourselves. We cannot permit it, and we will not permit it.

M. GLAIS BIZOIN (in the midst of the uproar)—I spurn the words of the Minister of State with supreme disdain.

Here several members called for the close of the general debate on the address. In the midst of great uproar the President put this motion to the House and declared it carried. M. GLAIS BIZOIN was thus deprived of the opportunity of saying anything more. Several members declared, however, that they did not know what had been taking place.

M. PLICHON—We did not understand the motion. We heard nothing.

M. GLAIS BIZOIN—I have still the right to speak. According to the rules it cannot be taken away from me, unless— [The words of the speaker are lost in the uproar.]

The President—Several members say they did not hear the motion for the closing of the discussion. ["Yes, yes." "No." "The motion is carried."]

Several members here rose and declared that the motion had not been understood, nor heard, but the President declared that it had been duly carried, and proceeded to other business. The House was not, however, satisfied, and

M. JULES FAVRE said—Indecorum and insult have proceeded from the Ministerial benches, and they remain. Have the Ministers the privilege of insult? ["Order, order."]

M. ROUHER—It is our duty to see that the Government is respected, and we will make it respected you may be certain.

M. EMILE OLLIVER—But you have no right to describe the words of a member as you have done.

M. GLAIS BIZOIN—Respect is not to be gained by insulting people.

M. ROUHER—People do not turn power into ridicule, as you did for half an hour.

M. ERNEST PICARD—The Minister owes it to himself, and to the dignity of the Chamber, to withdraw the words he used. [Great excitement. Cries of "Enough, enough." "Adjourn, adjourn."]

The House then adjourned until the next day.

Buried Alive; Extraordinary Statements.

Paris (March 1.) Correspondence of the London Times

M. DE LAGUERONNIERE presented a petition in the Senate on Tuesday from a person named DE CONSOL, "pointing out the danger of hasty interments, and suggesting the measures he thought requisite to avoid terrible consequences." Among other things, the petitioner demands that the space of 24 hours between the decease and the interment, now prescribed by the law, should be lengthened to 48 hours; that an electrical apparatus should be kept in the sacristy of each church, and that the parish priests and their curates should be taught how to work it; that the body should, after the lapse of forty-eight hours, be submitted to the most powerful electric test; that the solid wooden lid of coffins should be done away with and replaced by a covering of canvas, to be lifted up at the moment the remains are laid in the grave, in order to ascertain beyond all possibility of doubt that life is completely extinct, and that what appears to be death is not merely a lethargic sleep.

A rather long debate followed, in which Cardinal DONNET, Archbishop of Bordeaux, took a leading part. He was decidedly of opinion that the petition should not be set aside by the "order of the day," but that it should be transmitted to the Minister of the Interior for further action. Some of the remarks of the venerable prelate produced so great an effect on his auditors as to merit particular mention. He said he had the very best reasons for believing that the victims of hasty interments were more numerous than the people supposed. He considered the rules and regulations on this head as prescribed by the former very judicious; but, unfortunately, they were, particularly in the country, not always executed as they should be, nor was sufficient importance attached to them. In the village he was stationed in as assistant curate in the first period of his sacerdotal life he saved two persons from being buried alive. The first was an aged man, who lived twelve hours after the hour prescribed for his interment by the municipal officer. The second was a man who was quite restored to life; and in both cases a trance more prolonged than usual was taken for actual death. The other instances I give in the words of the Archbishop:

"The next case that occurred to me was at Bordeaux A young lady, who bore one of the most distinguished names in the department, had passed through what was believed to be the last agony, and as, apparently, all was over, the father and mother were kneeling by her in heartrending spectacle. As God willed it, I happened to pass by the door of the house at the moment, when it occurred to me to call and inquire how the young lady was going on. When I entered the room, the nurse, finding the body breathless, was in the act of covering the face, and, indeed, there was every appearance that life had departed. Somehow or other, it did not seem to me so certain as to the bystanders. I resolved to try. I raised my voice, called loudly upon the young lady not to give up all hope; that I was come to cure her, and that I was about to pray by her side. "You do not see me," I said, "but you hear what I am saying." My presentiments were not unfounded. The young lady heard and listened to me, and effected a marvellous change; or rather, called back the life that was departing. The young girl survived; she is now a mother of children, and is at this day the happiness of two most respectable families.

The Archbishop mentions another instance of a similar revival in a town of Hungary during the cholera of 1831, which he had heard that day from one of his colleagues of the Senate as they were mounting the staircase. But the last he related is so interesting and made such a sensation that it deserves to be repeated in his own words:

"In the Summer of 1826, on a close and sultry day, in a church which was excessively crowded, a young priest who was in the act of preaching was suddenly seized with giddiness, in the pulpit. The words he was uttering became indistinct, he soon lost the power of speech and sunk down on the floor. He was taken out of the church and carried home. All was thought to be over. Some hours after the funeral bell was tolled, and the usual preparations made for the interment. His eyesight was gone; but if he could see nothing, like the young lady I have alluded to, he could hear, and I need not say that what reached his ears was not calculated to re-assure him. The doctor came, examined him and pronounced him dead, and after the usual inquiries as to his age and the place of his birth, gave the permission for his interment next morning. The venerable Bishop in whose cathedral the young priest was preaching when he was seized with the fit came to his bedside to recite the *De Profundis*. The body was measured for the coffin. Night came on, and you will easily feel how inexpressible was the anguish of the living being in such a situation. At last, amid the voices murmuring around him, he distinguished that of one whom he had known from infancy. That voice, produced a marvellous effect and a superhuman effort. Of what followed I need say no more than that the seemingly dead man stood next day in the same pulpit. That young priest, gentlemen, is the same young man who is now before you, and who, more than 40 years after that event, implores those in authority, not merely to watch vigilantly over the careful execution of the legal prescriptions in regard to interments, but to enact fresh ones in order to prevent the recurrence of irreparable misfortunes."

As I have said, the recital of the Cardinal of what occurred to himself produced a profound sensation, and, in spite of all that could be alleged by the reporter of the petition, the Senate voted for referring it to the Minister of the Interior.

The Fenian Conspiracy.

THE SEARCH FOR HEAD CENTRE STEPHENS.

From the Dublin Freeman's Journal, March 2.

Within the past few days the exertions of some of the police, though apparently directed to the search for arms, were in reality aimed at getting a clue to the whereabouts of the now famous "Head Centre," of whose presence in Dublin there is not the remotest doubt. It is stated that two of the prisoners who were recently arrested are well aware of the place in which STEPHENS has secreted himself, and of the means he has adopted for evading the vigilance of the police. It is hinted that the promise of liberty and of a liberal reward for peaching on "the boss" has not been without the desired effect, and that the capture of the Irish leader of "the movement" is all but certain, unless his strange good fortune will again stand to him, as it did at Richmond Bridewell. That some of his most immediate friends are not arrested is owing to the fact that their movements, however cautious, are known to the Police, who use them for their purposes, and who, the authorities that STEPHENS must be soon unearthed, and that he will make for the seashore, that the strictest watch is being kept up at all the seaports and on the coast wherever the long-sought-for "Centre" may embark. Persons in all kinds of male and female disguise are on the look-out, and if STEPHEN's escapes it will be indeed a wonder. The police are acting on authentic information, and so close have they been on the heels of him on several occasions that constant shiftings from place to pace had to be adopted as absolutely necessary for the safety of the head and front of the Fenian conspiracy in this country. Up to a late hour on Thursday night the police were on the alert, and that danger was apprehended by the friends of "the movement" for the safety of "the chief" was evidenced by the conversation and anxiety for information of many of those who were most desirous to ascertain if the police had done anything. The distance between STEPHENS and his pursuers, it is stated, is every hour diminishing, and up to the present all the information that has been given by the "peachers" to the police has turned out to be correct, and the chances of STEPHENS being able to evade those in search of him are becoming less, as those who are anxious for the possession of the offered reward, and, more to be coveted, re-possession of their liberty, become day after day more numerous.

Adelina Patti and her European Engagements.

Paris (Feb. 28) Correspondence of the London Star:

PATTI has signed her engagement of three months with the St. Petersburgh Opera. She is to have £600 per night—that is £10,000 for her three months' stay in that capital. LA DIVA makes on 'an average £35,000 sterling per annum; du reste here is an hereditary talent. Her mother, MLLE BARILLI was a celebrated cantatrice; for her DONIZETTI wrote his "Assedio di Calais." She married at a very early age the tenor SALVATORE PATTI, with whom she had come out in several lyric dramas. Four children were the result of the marriage, the eldest of whom is married to MAURICE STRAKOSH, director of the Italian Theatre at New-York; CARLOTTA, who prefers concerts to operas; CARLO, who is in the Italian Army; and ADELINA, born Feb. 19, 1843. At five years of age her mother found the child rehearsing the part of *Norma*, after having seen her mother act it on a stage at New-York. ALBONI heard of the child and went to see her. She asked her to sing. ADELINA hid herself under a bed. ALBONI told her she should not emerge from her retreat till she had sung an air of the "Sonnambula." ADELINA executed it lying flat on the floor. ALBONI released her tiny prisoner, and kissing the child said, "*Tu nous feras toutes oublier.*" Prophetic words! The first time ADELINA sang in public was at New York, at eight years old. She stood on a table in order to be seen. At the Havannah her success was immense. At Port-au-Prince she was bitten by a scorpion, and rescued by a negress from death; she was shipwrecked on her passage thence to Santiago de Cuba, and when landed was all but killed by an earthquake. From thirteen to sixteen she gave up all regular study, and merely learnt operas by listening to her mother-in-law's performance. At seventeen she had thus acquired a perfect knowledge of nineteen operas, and made her *début* in November, 1859, at New-York, in "Lucia;" on the 14th May, 1861, in London, in the "Sonnambula;" and on the 17th November, in Paris, in the "Sonnambula." She made £5,600 out of a single concert in London, whereas GRISI never gained a higher sum than £2,400 by any single performance. TAGLIONI once at St. Petersburgh made £8,000, and Baron ROTHSCHILD, for two songs executed at his house, sent her £400 last Spring. She realised from the Italian opera alone, in a single season, £24,000. LA DIVA has found the philosopher's stone.

A Continental Romance.

The Paris correspondent of an Irish paper relates the following incidents: Some years ago a young Prince of high name fell desperately in love with a singularly beautiful girl. She had the misfortune to be poor. The young beauty was, however, well educated; but her genius at school being most preeminent in the feet, somehow she got upon the boards of Vienna as a dancer, and broke the hearts of the young Barons and Captains who lounged nightly behind the scenes. This Prince fell in love with, loved, and, what is not always usual, married the lovely lady of the fairy figure. There was, of course, much anger in the princely house to which he belonged, and thinking it better to fly before the gale than to face the blast, he left his paternal roof and took his bride over the Alps with him to the court and kingdom of Victor Emanuel. From this king he soon after obtained letters of naturalization, and, indeed, being himself but a younger son, became one of the great dignitaries of the Italian crown. In the capitals of the newly combined nation, first at Turin, latterly at Florence, the fair princess for the past few years was, of course, in the best society, and charmed all the world by her beauty, her grace, and her affability. Early this Winter the prince and princess came to Paris, and were everywhere received in society on the presentation of the Italian ambassador. The success of the prince in gaining universal admiration was, if possible, greater in Paris than in Florence. Nothing else has been spoken of but her beauty. But suddenly a change has come over the dream of the *beau monde*, for the court and the official world have refused to receive the charming lady. A certain Austrian secretary of legation has had the bad taste to assert that he recognized in the Princess an ex-diva of a *cafe-chantant*, a sort of Viennese Theresa. The horror of the virtuous matrons of Paris was at once aroused, and you know well how close prudery and affectation of virtue cling to those old creatures, probably thrice-married tabbies, who have themselves some very ugly skeleton in their cupboards. The poor Princess remained at home all day in a flood of tears. Her husband is indignant, and awaits the return to Paris of the Austrian attache, who left it when he sowed his crop of social poison.

Divorce in English High Live.

From the Manchester Examiner, March 2.

In the Court of Divorce, yesterday, the case of CAVENDISH *vs.* CAVENDISH and GORDON was tried. Mr. FRANCIS WILLIAM HENRY CAVENDISH sued for a divorce from his wife, Lady ELINOR SOPHIA DIANA CAVENDISH, (*née* FITZGIBBON, daughter of the Earl of Clare,) for criminal intimacy with Lord CECIL JAMES GORDON, from whom he claimed £20,000 as damages. Mr. HODSON appeared for the petitioner; Dr. DEANE, Q. C., and Dr. TRISTRAM for the respondent.

Mr. HODSON briefly opened the case, which he described as of peculiar atrocity. The respondent's were nearly related; but they were not on intimate terms till 1861, when the petitioner went to France, in consequence of a severe accident he had received. He then found Lord CECIL living with his family in the suburbs of Paris, and a close friendship sprang up between the two families. Lord CECIL's means being very small and his family very large, Mr. CAVENDISH had many opportunities of loading him with kindnesses. The co-respondent being twice the respondent's age, not the smallest suspicion was entertained till February, 1865, when Lord CECIL eloped with Lady ELINOR, and it was suggested that one reason for the conduct on his part might have been the fact that on the death of Lady ELINOR's parents she had come into possession of large property.

The following evidence was then called:

The Earl of CAWDOR—I am a brother-in-law of the petitioner. I was present at the wedding, which took place on the 24th of April, 1856. The petitioner and his wife have since visited me at my country house, Golden Grove, Carmarthenshire, and also at my house in town. I have also dined at their home in High Park-street. They appeared to live very happily together, and the petitioner's conduct appeared to be very kind. I have no ides of what Lady ELINOR's age may be.

Lieut.-Gen. CRAWFORD—I am also a brother-in-law of the petitioner. He has more than once visited me at my house, and in 1862 and 1863 I was living near them in the country, so that I saw them constantly. They seemed to be living together on perfectly good terms.

Mr. FREDERICK JOHN HOWARD—I reside at Eastbourne, and am half-brother to the petitioner, and I was formerly secretary to Lord CARLISLE. In 1857 I visited Lord CLARE at Mount Shannon, and there I saw the petitioner and Lady ELINOR. In 1861 the petitioner met with a severe accident, and went abroad, and in the three years following he and his wife often visited me in London. The petitioner's conduct to his wife was kind and indulgent, and they seemed on perfectly good terms. In February, 1865, I was asked to go to Mr. CAVENDISH's house, at Silverlands, near Slough, to meet the bride over the Alps with him. He was in great grief at what had taken place. I knew Lord CECIL GORDON. He is a man bordering on 60 years of age. He is brother-in-law to Lady ELINOR, having married her half-sister. Lord CLARE died in January, 1864, and Lady CLARE three or four months ago. She had been a great invalid.

SARAH HARRIS—I was housemaid to the petitioner, at Silverlands, in 1864; I saw Lord CECIL GORDON there; in June he came with his daughter; he came on a visit, and was taken ill; the petitioner's conduct to him was very kind: in August Lord CECIL came to live at Gray's Lodge, which was close to my master's; I believe he had nine children; the families frequently visited each other; I remember Lady ELINOR going away on the 2d of February, 1865; I did not hear her say where she was going; Mr. CAVENDISH accompanied her to the station; she never returned; she was expected on the next day; the carriage was twice sent for her at the station, and the dinner was postponed for her; on the following day (Sunday) I saw Mr. CAVENDISH; he appeared to be in great grief: I had a letter purporting to be in Lady ELINOR's handwriting; it was addressed to Lady ELINOR, and was returned through the Post-office; the petitioner had three children, the youngest two years old; I should say that Lady ELINOR is about thirty years of age.

THOMAS ANDERSON—I am in the petitioner's service. When Lady ELINOR was away I was given to understand that she was going to her mother; I wrote the address for the boxes. It was No. 37 Bryanston-square (Lady CLARE's). Lord CECIL dined at my master's on the Monday before the elopement. I went to Nice about a fortnight afterwards, and I made inquiries about Lord CECIL and Lady ELINOR. I found that they had been living together at an hotel, and were then staying in private lodgings, No. 27 Promenade des Anglais. I saw them walking together. I returned to England, and reported what I had seen. In March I again went to Nice, and saw them in the Rue de France, coming out of the back entrance of the house in which they were living. I served them with the citation, and Lord CECIL said to me, "I'm sorry you've turned detective." The letter produced is in Lord CECIL's handwriting. It was dated in 1862, and Lord CECIL thanked the petitioner for recovering his child out of a person's hands.

SUSAN FICKLEY—I was nurse in Lady ELINOR's family, and in February I went to Nice to see her. I went on my own accord. I saw Lord CECIL. He was living in the same apartment as Lady ELINOR—No. 27 Promenade des Anglais—and they were called Mr. and Mrs. GRAHAM. I stayed with them from Saturday till the Monday morning. I afterward went back and lived with them for four months. They were still living together as Mr. and Mrs. GRAHAM.

An admission as to Lady ELINOR's property was tendered in evidence, but it was refused.

The Judge Ordinary, in summing up, observed that, in whatever light the case was viewed, he had seldom, if ever, met with a worse.

The jury, after a short consultation, returned a verdict for the petitioner, and assessed the damages at £10,000, the foreman stating that they were unanimously of opinion that it was one of the grossest cases that had ever come under their notice.

Decree *nisi* with costs.

THE STREET-CLEANING CONTRACT.

Agreement and Specifications for Cleaning the Streets of New-York.

The following are the specifications of the contract by which Messrs. JOHN L. BROWN, WILLIAM H. DEVOE and SHEPERD F. KNAPP or their heirs or assigns are bound to clean all the paved streets and avenues, all lanes, alleys and gutters, and all wharves, piers and heads of slips in the City of New-York during the period of ten years from June 9, 1865. The contract was made with Messrs. C. GODFREY GUNTHER, JOHN T. HOFFMAN, MATTHEW T. BRENNAN, FRANCIS I. A. BOOLE and JOHN E. DEVLIN, and these gentlemen are known throughout the specifications as "Commissioners" and "the party of the first part." Mr. JACKSON S. SCHULTZ has taken the place of Mr. BOOLE in the Commission which made this contract, and it has been agreed that the contract as it here appears shall be executed under the orders of the Board of Health.

SPECIFICATIONS.

1. All the paved streets and avenues, and all lanes and alleys, and all gutters, wharves, piers and heads of slips in the City of New-York shall be well, faithfully and thoroughly cleaned, and all other work, labor, services and other things required of the contractors shall be well and thoroughly performed, as herein provided.

2. All the paved streets and avenues, and all lanes, alleys, and all gutters, wharves, piers and heads of slips shall be swept at least once in each week, unless prevented by frost or snow, subject as aforesaid.

3. All ashes, garbage, rubbish and sweepings of every kind, which may be delivered to the contractors, or that may be placed in barrels, boxes, pails, baskets or any other vessels upon the sidewalk, or in the front area, or upon the upper area steps of any dwelling-house, store or public building, shall be removed from the streets in tight carts, every 24 hours, Sundays excepted.

4. The driver of each and every cart employed as an ash-cart or garbage-cart, shall cause a bell of the size now in use for that purpose to be rung, to give notice of the approach of the cart; and such drivers shall receive or take all ashes, garbage, sweepings and rubbish which shall be delivered to them respectively, or which may be placed upon the sidewalk in barrels, boxes, pails, buckets or any other vessels, or in the area, or upon the cellar steps of any dwelling-house, store or public building.

5. Broadway, from the Battery to Twenty-sixth-street, shall be swept during the night, and before the hour of 7 A. M., every twenty-four hours. Parkrow, Chatham-street and the Bowery, and the Fifth-avenue, from Waverley-place to Fifty-ninth-street, and Broadway, from Twenty-sixth to Fifth-ninth-street, shall be swept during the night, and before the hour of 7 A. M., at least three times in each week, viz.: On Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Fourth-avenue to Thirty-second-street, Sixth-avenue to Forty-second-street, Eighth-avenue to Forty-second-street, State-street, Whitehall-street, Wall-street, Cortlandt-street, Maiden-lane, Fulton-street, Chambers-street west from Chatham-street, Grand-street east from Broadway, and Canal-street west from Broadway, each shall be swept at least twice in each week, unless prevented by frost or snow, subject as aforesaid.

In case of a parade, procession, or any public demonstration, any street or avenue shall be cleaned, on written notice by the Commissioners, or a majority of them, to the contractors. All streets below Chambers street, except around the markets, and where the market wagons stand, (which shall be cleaned daily in the forenoon,) shall be cleaned during the night and before the hour of 7 A. M., between the first day of May and the first day of October, and before the hour of 9 A. M. between the first day of October and the first day of May in each year. When in the judgment of the City Inspector, indorsed by two other Commissioners, or in the judgment of a majority of the other Commissioners, the performance of any work is impracticable, from the state of the weather or other cause, a majority of the other Commissioners or the City inspector may, from time to time, in writing, increed by two Commissioners, designate a later hour for the work, or dispense with the same temporarily.

6. All dirt, garbage, ashes, rubbish and sweepings of every kind, which the said contractors shall collect and remove, as herein provided, and all manure, shall belong to the contractors, who shall pay therefor twenty thousand dollars ($20,000) per annum, in equal monthly payments, to the Comptroller of the City, for the benefit of the sinking fund, for the payment of interest on the City debt; said dirt, garbage, ashes and rubbish, as fast as the same can be collected, shall be removed from the City in boats or scows, the construction of which shall be approved by the City Inspector, or a majority of said Commissioners. Said boats or scows shall not be allowed to remain at their berths a longer time than shall be permitted by the City Inspector, or a majority of said Commissioners, if in his or their judgment the public health is endangered thereby. No deposit of any such dirt, garbage, ashes or rubbish shall be made within the City, except such as, in the judgment of the City Inspector, and any two other Commissioners, may be suitable to fill low ground or sunken lots, and which may be required for such purpose.

The dumping grounds, dumping boards, docks and places of deposit for sweepings and manure, now used for street-cleaning purposes, or purposes of dumping or deposit, are hereby assigned to such contractors for the purposes aforesaid, to be used free of charge, and such additional dumping grounds, dumping boards, docks and places of deposit as may be found necessary, or such other convenient and sufficient places therefor, shall be furnished to the contractors free of charge; but no change in such grounds, boards, docks, or places of deposit, shall be made except by mutual consent of the contractors and a majority of the Commissioners; or, in case of the assumption of this contract by the sureties, or any of them, except by consent of the sureties so performing this contract and a majority of the Commissioners.

7. The streets shall be kept conveniently passable for vehicles during the winter, and the cross-walks, and all gutters intersecting the same, shall be kept clear of snow and ice, and the culverts of the sewers shall be kept free and clear, so that the water shall not be prevented from flowing through them.

8. The streets shall, in all instances, be sprinkled in advance of the sweepers employed thereon, and from the first of May to the first of November in each year, the gutters shall be washed out as often as the Contractors may think necessary, or they may, from time to time, be required by the City Inspector, unless objected to by a majority of said Commissioners, any mud or other substance being first removed from the gutters, so that the same shall not be carried into the sewer; and the Croton water which the Contractors may deem necessary for the performance of this contract, shall be furnished, free of expense and charge, subject to such rules and regulations as may be made a majority of the Commissioners, to prevent waste of water.

9. The purposes of the provisions of this contract are to secure clean streets in this city, and protect the public health, at a limited expenditure of money, for the period of ten years. The work of performing under the immediate supervision of the City Inspector. If the City Inspector shall, at any time, consider that the contractors have failed, in any respect, to comply with any of the obligations of this contract, or any other Commissioner shall notify him of any such failure, he shall forthwith notify the contractors, in writing, of the default; and if the contractors shall not, without unreasonable delay, comply with the requirements of the City Inspector, in respect to such default, such officer shall notify his associate commissioners of the fact, who shall thereupon, on twenty-four hours' notice, notify the contractors of the performance of the contract by them in a meeting of the Commissioners to consider the same at a time and place to be mentioned in such notice, which may be served by leaving it at the residence or place of business, in the city of New York, of such contractors. The Commissioners, after hearing such complaint, and the contractors, if they appear, if a majority of them, shall decide that they have unreasonably made default in the execution of this contract, or any of its provisions, under their hands respectively, declare this contract terminated, which declaration shall be filed in the office of the Comptroller, and a copy thereof served on the contractors and upon their sureties, in the manner above provided for the service of a notice upon them; and upon such service upon him and his sureties, this contract shall be at an end, unless the said sureties, or such of them as may be willing to assume this contract, within twenty-four hours after such service upon them respectively, shall, in writing, assume and undertake the performance of this contract, or so much thereof as shall then remain unperformed, in which case the sureties, or such of them as so assume to perform as aforesaid, shall be entitled to receive the compensation provided by this contract, together with the entire reserved ten per cent. remaining with the Comptroller at the end of each year, and the bond given upon the execution of this contract shall be applicable and apply to such sureties as undertake to perform the work as aforesaid, in the same manner and to the same extent as though they had been the original conractors under this contract. In case none of said sureties shall assume to perform the said work, as aforesaid, the said work shall immediately thereafter be relet on account of the contractors, for the time which shall remain of the period provided for the continuance of this contract, the amount agreed to be paid by the new contract for said work during its existence, and the performance of said work under it, in excess of the amount herein stipulated, and such other costs and expenses as the Corporation shall be put to in the premises, together with all cost and expense beyond the contract price herein mentioned, incurred by the said Aldermen and Commonalty of New-York aforesaid in cleaning the streets, and performing the work aforesaid, until such new contract shall be made, shall be the amount of damages to be paid by the contractors and their sureties, for such violation of, or default in, executing this contract, and shall be reimbursed to the Corporation by the contractor. This contract shall not be terminated otherwise than is herein provided. But it is stipulated and agreed that this contract shall not be terminated by the said Commissioners on any merely technical ground, nor for any cause other than such which would in law be regarded as reasonable and substantial, taking into consideration the scope and object of the contract, and the general manner of executing the provisions of the same.

Alterations of the terms of this contract may be made, from time to time, by the consent of the said Commissioners, or a majority of them, and the contractors and their sureties, or in case of the performance of the work by the said sureties, or any of them, by a majority of said Commissioners, and such sureties as are performing this contract in such manner as, in the judgement of a majority of the said Commissioners, will more effectually secure the interest of the City of New York in the premises.

10. In case the said contractors or their sureties shall fail to make any of such payments of damages, then the Corporation Counsel shall have the right, in the name of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of the City of New-York, or of said Commissioners, to institute legal proceedings against them to collect the same.

The contractors shall well, truly, and faithfully do, perform, and observe all things required of, and incumbent upon the contractors for carrying the aforesaid sections into full and complete effect, and for the best interests of the city and its inhabitants.

The contractors shall well and faithfully indemnify and save harmless said parties of the first part, of, from, and against all damages, costs, charges, and expenses, which said parties of the first part may sustain or be put to, for or by reason of any misconduct, or any negligence, on the part of the contractors, their agents, or servants, in carrying this agreement into effect; and all such damages, costs, charges, and expenses may be retained and deducted out of the compensation which said contractors would otherwise be entitled to receive.

Ten per cent. of each semi-monthly installment of the contract price, as herein provided, shall be retained by the Comptroller until the expiration of each contract year. If, at the expiration of each year, this contract shall have been faithfully performed on the part of the contractors, or their sureties, the Comptroller shall pay to said contractors, or their sureties performing the said work, his warrant for the ten per cent. so retained by him.

For the true and faithful performance of this agreement, the parties of the first part will pay said parties of the second part the sum of $498,500, each and every year, so long as said agreement shall remain in force,